

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee,

My name is Leslie Borrayo, and I live in Providence. I am the parent/guardian of a student at the Urban Collaborative Accelerated Program (UCAP).

I am writing to strongly support S-2208 / H-7271. UCAP has made a difference in my child's life.

Before UCAP, my child struggled in traditional school settings like Nathan bishop middle school, where my daughter attended before UCAP. My daughter struggled to stay out of trouble. She was involved in fights because she would get bullied or would skip class because she didn't want to deal with the rest of the kids. My daughter struggled in all her years in providence traditional schools and her grades were always so low she always seemed lost I just didn't know how I could help my daughter but it was until I decided to go and transfer my daughter out of Nathan bishop myself and bring UCAP all the paperwork they need in order to get her in because the counselor in Nathan bishop wasn't responding to them about Analí. Ever since the first day I brought Analí to UCAP I have seen the staff and every teacher in the school support Analí so much that she has improved she has been doing so much better in school. She participates. She does not fight . Shes not involved in any drama . She did cheerleading went to all her practices. I have seen a big change in her and If you ask the teachers when we had a conference I was in tears because I never saw my daughter succeed so much like she is doing now. I was so proud of her presentation and I could see all the effort my child was putting into class and still is till this day. She is a big example of why UCAP should stay in our community . The staff and teachers care they make sure every student is in class and if my daughter misses one class which she has not skipped again since her last school, the staff calls everytime she isn't in school they will call to make sure it's because she is home sick. My daughter Analí now thinks of her future and talks about what she wants to be when she's older. In the past , I could ask her what she wanted to be and she was just not interested but today shes a whole different student with a good head on her shoulders and I want to thank UCAP for everything they've done in my daughters life. They really did everything the others school could not do. I'm so grateful for them. My daughter is in a more stable environment and it would concern me if this school was removed because it's does more of an impact on à child in just one year than all these other schools where they just don't care for the students.

At UCAP, they have found structure, support, and confidence.

The possibility of students being forced to leave UCAP because of changes in district participation is deeply concerning to families like mine. Students who are succeeding deserve stability, not disruption.

This legislation would allow UCAP to continue serving students based on need and would provide long-term stability for the program. For families like ours, that stability matters.

Please support S-2208 / H-7271 to protect students and ensure UCAP can continue its important work.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Leslie Borrayo
Providence