

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee,

My name is Nicole Robison, and I live in Providence. I am writing as a parent of a scholar enrolled in the Urban Collaborative Acceleration Program (UCAP) to strongly urge you to reconsider any plans to dissolve your collaboration and to show my vigorous support

**S-2208/ H-7271**

UCAP has been life-changing for my child. In a traditional mainstream public school setting, my daughter would have gotten lost—academically, emotionally, and socially. The structure and pace of a large, conventional school did not meet her needs, and she was at risk of falling behind. UCAP provided her with an alternative educational environment that truly works for her.

This program recognizes that not all scholars learn the same way. UCAP offers individualized support, understanding educators, and a learning model that allows students to grow at their own pace while still being held to high expectations. Because of this program, my child has regained confidence, motivation, and a sense of belonging in her education.

UCAP being forced to close would take away a vital opportunity for students who depend on alternative pathways to succeed. Many of these scholars are not failing because they are incapable—they are struggling because the traditional system does not fit their needs. UCAP fills that gap and ensures students are supported rather than left behind. Closing this program would remove a vital resource for students who already face systemic barriers in education. Rather than being pushed out or left behind, these scholars are given a chance to re-engage with learning, earn credits, and work toward graduation in a supportive and understanding environment. The program plays a key role in promoting equity, reducing dropout rates, and helping students build confidence in themselves and their futures.

As a parent, I want my child—and all children—to have access to an education that meets them where they are and helps them reach their full potential. I respectfully ask the department to consider the real impact this decision would have on families like mine and to keep the Urban Collaborative Acceleration Program open.

Thank you for your time, consideration, and commitment to supporting all students.

Please Support **S-2208/ H-7271**

Sincerely

Nicole Robison

Providence, RI

Parent of a UCAP Scholar