

Subject: Support for S-2208 / H-7271: Strengthening UCAP for the Future

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee,

My name is Stephanie Brooks, and I am a supporter of the Urban Collaborative Accelerated Program (UCAP).

UCAP was founded in 1989, long before alternative education models were widely available in Rhode Island and has served students who need accelerated learning and a smaller, structured environment for 37 years.

Last year, I had the opportunity to take a student-led tour of UCAP, where several students shared their love for the school and their dreams for the future, including their career aspirations and hopes to contribute to the Providence community. It was clear to me that UCAP is providing students with a strong foundation that will support not only their individual success, but the continued strength of the Providence community.

S-2208 / H-7271 strengthens UCAP's long-term sustainability by allowing additional districts to refer students and clarifying governance and admissions authority. This legislation reflects today's educational landscape and ensures that UCAP remains a stable, accountable public option for families across Rhode Island.

I respectfully urge your support in this important legislation.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Brooks

North Providence