

Dear members of the House Finance Committee,

My name is Alexandra Paredes, I am a 10th grader at Village Green Virtual Charter School and a youth at Young Voices, an afterschool program in Providence, RI. I am writing today in support of H8351 which would establish the Rhode Island Education Funding and Accountability Act. This would include a totally revised and revamped formula for funding all levels of public education in Rhode Island.

This bill is really important to me because public schools need money for food and basic necessities to support all of their students. School supplies such as books, pencils, paper, printers, projectors, are all essential for students to have the education we deserve. Teacher and staff pay, school events and opportunities are also really important to maintain a good and growing school environment where students feel ready to learn.

We need to pass this bill because it allows for teachers and staff to earn better pay, which improves our experiences in class and reduces burnout for them. It allows for better class supplies and more technology which helps give students more exposure to the modern world we now live in. Getting more funding will also lead the students to get more opportunities with events made with the money, and chances to go out and learn more.

I believe that this bill should be passed for all the people that will be affected positively by it. Please help us improve the funding for schools by passing H8351.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Alexandra Paredes