



FROM: Collective Action for Education
Testimony in Opposition to HB8581
May 26, 2026

TO: House Committee on Finance

My name is Andrew MacMannis, Chief of External Affairs for Collective Action for Education. This letter is noting our opposition to House Bill 8581, which removes the fourteen percent limitation for reduction to the local per-pupil funding for charter schools. At a time when Rhode Island should be focused on building a fair and stable public education funding system for all students, this proposal instead deepens division between sectors and creates new financial instability for schools and families.

Rhode Island families are not asking policymakers to weaken one type of public school in order to support another. Families are asking for strong public schools across the board and a funding system that prioritizes students over politics. We urge the committee to oppose House Bill 8581.

Andrew MacMannis

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrew MacMannis", written in a cursive style.

Chief of External Affairs, Collective Action for Education