

From: [Lima, Jennifer](#)
To: [SLegislation](#)
Subject: S2216 - Support
Date: Monday, April 6, 2026 9:35:53 AM

You don't often get email from jennifer_lima@nksd.net. [Learn why this is important](#)

S2216
Support
Jennifer Lima

I am writing today in support of S2216 which would provide for a comprehensive criminal and employment background check procedure for all school employees.

In line with the legislation introduced by Senator Bridget Valverde to track the termination of non-credentialed school employees terminated for good and just cause (2025-S0633/2026-3010) this is a very real issue and there are gaps in the current laws that need to be closed.

RIGL 16-13 only addresses teachers who have been terminated. It doesn't cover situations where a teacher resigns in lieu of a termination either before or after an investigation has been completed. It also doesn't cover employees in a school district who are not teachers.

In addition, not all inappropriate behavior with a student rises to the level of a criminal offense which means it wouldn't be picked up on a background check. Requiring other information pertaining to an applicant's employment history as it specifically relates to allegations of misconduct is another layer of protection for our students.

Please note that the views expressed in this letter are my own and do not represent those of the North Kingstown School Committee.

Thank you,
Jennifer Lima

--

Jennifer Lima (she/her/hers)
North Kingstown School Committee Member
[Why Pronouns Matter](#)
[Talking About Pronouns in the Workplace - HRC Foundation \(thehrcfoundation.org\)](#)

"Diversity is a fact. Equity is a choice. Inclusion is an action. Belonging is an outcome." - Arthur Chan

My working hours may not be your working hours. Please do not feel

obligated to reply outside of your normal work schedule.