

From: [Carol Pagan](#)
To: [Meghan Connors](#)
Subject: Re: oppose S2934
Date: Tuesday, May 19, 2026 2:32:28 PM

Hi Meghan,

Here is my letter:

Dear Members of the Rhode Island Legislature,

I write today in strong opposition to Senate Bill S2934, legislation that directly targets the collective bargaining rights of teachers in the Providence Public School District. The fact that this bill singles out only Providence teachers makes its intent clear: this is not broad educational reform, but a targeted attack on one group of educators and their union.

Providence teachers serve students who face some of the greatest challenges in our state. Every day, our students are impacted by housing instability, food insecurity, limited access to healthcare, poverty, trauma, and unmet basic needs. In many cases, schools are the first line of defense for children and families navigating these hardships. Teachers are often the trusted adults providing stability, support, advocacy, and care beyond academics.

Rather than supporting the educators who continue to show up for students under extraordinarily difficult circumstances, this bill seeks to weaken their professional protections, threaten their financial stability, reduce due process rights related to dismissal, and open the door to demotions and unfair treatment. These are not policies that strengthen schools. They are policies rooted in punishment and reprisal.

Providence teachers have repeatedly answered the call to serve their students and community. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the public saw firsthand the essential role teachers play in the lives of children and families. Educators adapted overnight, worked tirelessly under impossible conditions, and continued to support students academically and emotionally during one of the most difficult periods in modern history. That commitment has not changed.

If this legislation passes, the consequences will be severe. Teachers will leave Providence in large numbers, and future educators will think twice before choosing to work in our city. At a time when districts across the country are facing teacher shortages and struggling to recruit and retain qualified educators, Rhode Island should not be advancing legislation that drives teachers away from the students who need them most.

Strong schools require strong educators. Strong educators require respect, fairness, and stability. Targeting Providence teachers alone sends a damaging message that the professionals serving our highest-need students are somehow less deserving of basic

workplace protections than educators elsewhere in Rhode Island.

I urge you to reject Senate Bill S2934 and instead focus on policies that genuinely support students, families, and the educators who serve them every day. Our students deserve investment, stability, and experienced teachers in their classrooms — not legislation that undermines the very people working hardest to help them succeed.

Please exercise sound judgment and stand with Providence students, families, and teachers by opposing S2934.

Sincerely,

Carol Pagan

Instructional Coach

Leviton Dual Language School

On Tue, May 19, 2026 at 2:10 PM Meghan Connors <mconnors@rilegislature.gov> wrote:

Hello,

Can you please resend your email regarding S2934 in a different format or as an attachment?

Thank you.