

From: [Jan Little](#)
To: [SLegislation](#)
Subject: Oppose Bill S2934
Date: Wednesday, May 20, 2026 2:23:12 PM

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Dear Senator,

I am a proud Providence Public school teacher writing to respectfully oppose Rhode Island Senate Bill S2934, which proposes changes to teacher salary structures, tenure protections, dismissal procedures, and the continued governance of the Providence Public School District.

Specifically, I oppose this bill for the following reasons:

The proposal creates a separate set of rules and employment standards specifically for Providence teachers. If these policies are truly beneficial for improving education, then why are they being applied only to Providence educators and not statewide? Singling out one district creates inequity among Rhode Island teachers and sends the message that Providence educators deserve fewer protections and less professional respect than their peers in other communities.

The proposal to allow alternative salary schedules and bonus-based compensation risks creating inequities among educators and shifts focus away from collaboration and student-centered instruction. Public education works best when teachers work together, not when systems create competition among staff.

The expanded dismissal and demotion procedures weaken longstanding due process protections and may contribute to increased staff turnover and instability. At a time when schools across Rhode Island are struggling to recruit and retain qualified educators, policies that reduce job security will likely worsen staffing shortages.

Providence students, particularly students receiving special education services, multilingual learners, and students with significant academic or behavioral needs, benefit most from stable, experienced educators who know their students and communities well. Increased turnover negatively impacts continuity of instruction and student progress.

Providence teachers should not be treated as an experiment or held to a separate standard from educators elsewhere in Rhode Island. Real educational improvement comes from investing in schools, supporting educators, reducing class sizes, strengthening family partnerships, and ensuring students have access to the services they need.

I respectfully urge the committee to reject S2934 and instead pursue collaborative,

equitable policies that support all Rhode Island students and educators fairly.

Thank you for your time and consideration.
Sincerely,

Jan Little
Warren, Rhode Island