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To: [SLegislation](#)
Subject: Opposition to S2934
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To the Senate Committee on Education,

I am a proud Providence Public Schools teacher, writing in strong opposition to Senate Bill S 2934.

This bill which is being presented as a solution for Providence schools, is in reality another reckless experiment imposed upon one of Rhode Island's most vulnerable school communities.

After years of state control which has led to greater instability, disruption, staff turnover, and public humiliation directed at Providence educators, this proposal doubles down on dismantling professional protections instead of addressing the actual conditions students and teachers face every day.

Let's be honest about what this bill does: it creates a separate minimum salary structure for Providence teachers and establishes dismissal and demotion procedures that weaken professional stability and due process. In other words, the message to educators is clear: Providence teachers deserve fewer protections, less security, and different treatment than educators elsewhere in Rhode Island.

Why would anyone choose to work in a district where the legislature openly signals that teachers are more disposable?

Providence does not suffer from "too many protections" for teachers. Providence suffers from concentrated poverty, underfunded systems, chronic turnover, enormous student needs, trauma, inconsistent leadership, and years of state intervention that promised transformation but instead delivered chaos and instability.

The answer to struggling schools is not to make the profession of educating students less sustainable.

You will not attract strong educators by threatening them.

You will not improve student outcomes by destabilizing schools further.

You will not rebuild trust by carving Providence teachers out as exceptions to fairness.

Teachers in Providence are not the enemy. They are often the only stable adults holding fractured systems together. This bill proposes stripping protections from the very educators who stayed and continued serving children through unreasonable circumstances.

Providence should not be treated as a testing ground for punitive policies that would never be politically tolerated in wealthier districts.

Students in Providence deserve excellent schools.

Educators in Providence deserve dignity and respect.
This bill offers neither.

At this time when Rhode Island and Providence in particular need to attract and retain highly qualified educators by offering stability and fair protections, this bill does the opposite by creating avenues that make it easier to lower compensation structures or dismiss staff unilaterally.

Please prioritize the stability of our school system and oppose S2934. Thank you for your time and public service.

Sincerely,

Kerry Trotta

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