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To: [SLegislation](#)
Subject: Testimony in Support of S-2934
Date: Tuesday, May 19, 2026 12:47:40 PM

To: Member of the Senate Education Committee

Re: Testimony in Support of Senate Bill S-2934

Dear Members:

I am writing to express my support for S-2934.

I have had both the distinct honor and pleasure of having previously volunteered in the Providence Public Schools (PPS) in 2022-2023, right after I retired and moved to Providence in 2021. At MLK Elementary and Hope High School. I witnessed firsthand the multitude of challenges both schools faced, and I understood that the pandemic was exacerbating but not solely responsible for the troubles afflicting the students, teachers, and staff.

I read the Senate's Study Commission's report with interest and enthusiasm and hoped that soon the city would adopt its recommendations.

S-2934 addresses key policies needed to bring about a positive change in outcomes for Providence's schools that will benefit students, teachers, and administrators alike.

Teaching staff should be incentivized to achieve excellent and should be rewarded for their progress – this bill stipulates the implementation and evaluation of performance metrics to encourage teachers to enhance

their skills and demonstrate their capabilities in the classroom.

When RIFs occur, they should be implemented with due consideration of the quality of the staff that will be retained. The best teachers are the ones who should be prioritized for retention.

Under-performing teachers should be identified and given the opportunity to improve. Should the time come to acknowledge that a teacher is consistently not performing in keeping with the standards set forth and applied to all teachers, then the administration should be free to expedite that teacher's review, and the outcome thereof.

Appropriate and essential funding is critical to the future of PPS, as well as fresh labor-management collaboration and cooperation.

For Providence to thrive, PPS must be made to thrive. S-2934 addresses the above concerns and is the way forward for ensuring that the return of the PPS to the city of Providence is given a fair chance to succeed at delivering better outcomes for students, and a more fulfilling career experience for its teachers.

Sincerely,

Ted Herman

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