

From: [Todd Davidson](#)
To: [Legislation](#)
Subject: Opposition to Bill S 2934
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Dear Chairwoman Gallo and Members of the Senate Education Committee:

As a teacher who has served as Multilingual Learner Department Lead, been a member of the School Improvement and Instructional Leadership Teams, and facilitated over 50 Sheltered Content Instruction sessions for my school and the Providence school district, I am writing this letter in opposition to Bill S 2934.

This bill unfairly discriminates against Providence teachers and punishes the very teachers who helped turn Providence Public Schools around needing state intervention to make significant gains, pointing to a return to city control. These gains were realized because of the tireless work of Providence teachers, students, and administrators. These gains were realized because teachers became dedicated to college coursework to serve MLL students better; we have faithfully carried out every initiative, including the Right to Read, a longer school day, and have actively engaged during Sheltered Content Instruction sessions.

In addition to punishing teachers who should not be punished, this bill would lead to a mass exodus of high-quality teachers seeking work in a district where they are more respected. On the other hand, this bill would also put Providence at a disadvantage in attracting high-quality teachers. As a direct result, if you vote in favor of this bill, it will mean you are voting to waste our gains and wish for the largest Rhode Island school district to struggle.

It is simple: if Providence flourishes, it helps the state flourish. Conversely, if Providence struggles, it can have an adverse ripple effect on the entire state. Please do the right thing and vote against this bill that seeks mediocrity and promotes capable students learning from substitute teachers rather than certified teachers.

Sincerely,

Todd Davidson

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