



FROM: Andrew MacMannis, Collective Action for Education

**Testimony in Support of SB3015**

**May 19, 2026**

**TO:** Senate Committee on Finance : [SenateFinance@rilegislature.gov](mailto:SenateFinance@rilegislature.gov)

My name is Andrew MacMannis, Chief of External Affairs for Collective Action for Education, and I am writing in support of Senate Bill 3015, which would update and reestablish a fair and equitable way of funding schools in Rhode Island. This bill would be aligned with the recommendations of a cross-sector Blue Ribbon committee report put forward by the Rhode Island Foundation, and would positively shape the educational ecosystem for years to come.

The report and the bill do something important: it shifts the conversation away from “district vs. charter” and toward a unified goal: fair, student-centered funding across all public schools. This is where *all* of our educational discourse should be: not us against them, but rather, a system that sees all of us, together. Rhode Island families are not asking policymakers to weaken one type of public school in order to support another. Families are asking for strong public schools across the board and a funding system that prioritizes students over politics.

By centering funding decisions on student need rather than governance structure, Senate Bill 3015 helps ensure that resources are distributed more equitably and predictably across the state. It creates a foundation for a more coherent approach to public education. **We strongly urge the passage of this bill of Senate Bill 3015.**

Andrew MacMannis

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "AMANNIS", written over a faint horizontal line.

Chief of External Affairs, Collective Action for Education