Such a policy is absolutely essential, what we have now is that school district staff are too quick to go for the restraint option. It is extremely traumatizing to the kids that are being restrained or secluded.

I consider myself lucky that I was able to overcome the trauma caused to me by the use of restraint and seclusion.

One loop hole that I see in HB 1318 is that the term “time out” can be used to describe actual seclusion practices, I have personally experienced this. They called what they did to me “time out” when I was actually removed from the classroom and put in a seclusion room.

I personally know of people who have developed PTSD from being restrained and secluded. I still to this day have difficulty speaking of the treatment I received without becoming overwhelmed.

Thank you,

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