

**House Education Committee
Senate Bill 2351 – January 31, 2023
Testimony of Rachel Sinness, P&A Legal Director**

P&A protects the human, civil and legal rights of people with disabilities. The agency's programs and services seek to make positive changes for people with disabilities where we live, learn, work and play.

P&A provides neutral testimony regarding SB 2351 relating to a data collection system for classroom and hallway clearings.

Subsection 3 suggests a comprehensive report. In keeping with the idea of comprehensive reporting, P&A suggests adding language to subsection 2 that addresses the series of events leading up to the incident requiring a classroom or hallway clearing. We appreciate the inclusion of reporting limitations such as seclusion, restraint, suspension, expulsion, and school removal for behavioral issues.

SB 2351 provides that all public schools shall report data quarterly. P&A supports the idea of including ramifications as provided in subsection 5 relating to a school's failure to submit the report will make it more likely that a school will make regular reports. It is P&A's understanding that schools are to make such reports now, but several do not. It is understandably difficult to track and guarantee accurate data when the data and reporting are unreliable.

P&A supports amendments that more carefully consider data relating to clearings, restraint, and conclusion, and those which more accurately reflect the data obtained.