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House Human Services Committee:

In regards to SB 2260, I would like to share my opinion on why I feel this is a bill that should not be passed. This is a bill that has the potential to increase the teacher shortage that we already have in our state. I can see this bill, if passed, pushing many teachers to resign and find work elsewhere.

I feel that in our school, we make it a priority to involve our parents and community in what is being taught to our youth. We want our parents to be a part of our team and welcome them into our school at any moment. Parents already have access to curriculum, as well as instructional and resource materials used by teachers under existing law and board policies. By forcing teachers to plan a full semester of lessons, the result will be text-book, robotic lessons that will take away the teachers ability to lead their class to different levels of learning that happen in the moment. There are so many “teachable moments” that you can’t find in a lesson plan. Creating this extra burden for teachers will indirectly send a message to teachers that they are not professionals and they are not trusted.

Not only will this bill effect children academically, but it can also become a safety issue. SB 2260 will make it more difficult for schools to report suspected child abuse or neglect on the part of the child’s parent. It would also become more difficult for children in need of protective services to receive help, especially if the parent is the suspected abuser.

Please vote no on SB 2260. I truly believe this will not benefit our children and will only increase the burden for teachers, which will ultimately lead to a higher rate of teacher burnout and shortage.

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