

I am writing with concerns regarding SB2340. I meet with students at our high school in the area of social/emotional, academic and career. The standards that I cover would have to be met by classroom teachers, who are already overextended. Students also come to me to calm down and oftentimes I am able to prevent fights and disruptions. I think this could cause more behavioral concerns for teachers and office referrals for our principals.

Just today I had one student come in and talk to me because she was having a tricky day and wanted to go home. We talked about the issue and she was able to make it through the day. When I saw her in the lunchroom I asked how things were going and she gave me a thumbs up. I also had a student come in today that was upset at another student. She felt like she wanted to punch the student. She was also able to get through her day without an incident. Our students and school staff members deserve to have the extra support of school counselors that serve tier 1 and tier 2 level support with the ASCA recommended ratio of 300 to 1.