

## Support for House Bill 1247

### Ensuring Safety and Dignity for Victims of Sexual Assault

The issue of sexual assault within educational institutions is one of grave concern, affecting not only the victims but also the broader school community. House Bill 1247 seeks to address a critical aspect of this issue by ensuring that no student who has been a victim of sexual assault by another student is forced to attend school with the "convicted student." This measure is not only a matter of justice but also one of safety, dignity, and psychological well-being.

### Promoting a Safe Educational Environment

Education is a fundamental right, and every student deserves to pursue their studies in an environment that is safe and supportive. Allowing a convicted student to remain in the same school as their victim undermines this principle, creating an atmosphere of fear and discomfort. House Bill 1247 seeks to uphold the integrity of the educational environment by removing convicted students from the school, thereby allowing victims to regain a sense of normalcy and security.

### Addressing the Needs of All Students

While the primary focus of House Bill 1247 is on the victims of sexual assault, it also considers the broader student body. The presence of a convicted assailant can have a ripple effect, causing unease and concern among other students and parents. By implementing this bill, schools can foster a climate of trust and safety, reassuring all stakeholders that the institution takes the issue of sexual assault seriously and is committed to protecting its students.