

Written Testimony of

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Before the Education Committee

SB 977 AN ACT CONCERNING VIRTUAL LEARNING.

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Good afternoon, Senator McCrory, Representative Sanchez, and members of the Education Committee.

I fully understand the desire to increase educational flexibility via a variety of delivery modalities. In rare cases, the best solution is/will be some form of remote teaching and learning. However, the essence of teaching and learning is an in-person social exchange. Proximity matters. Body language matters. Movement matters. Dynamic interactions matter. It is clear based on our past year of experience that online teaching and learning is vastly systemically inferior. In a societal or individual crisis, it can provide a lifeline, but it would be a tragic mistake to pursue a path where online learning becomes a regular component of "normal" education. I encourage you to reject normalizing online learning for the sake of students, teachers, and society.