

Testimony of

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Before the

Education Committee

March 1, 2023

Good afternoon, Senator McCrory, Representative Currey, Senator Berthel, Representative McCarty, and members of the Education Committee.

I testify today in support of the caps on class sizes proposed in Senate Bill 1093, which would take an important step in ensuring that classrooms are places where students can learn, and educators can teach.

Common sense dictates that smaller class sizes are beneficial to students. Perhaps politicians should visit classrooms to see for themselves. Not only can teachers develop more meaningful relationships in their smaller classes, they can also navigate behavioral issues and monitor peer interactions more quickly. I know in my classes with 20 or fewer, students are more confident and therefore successful than in my classes of 28. Special education and behavior students often are a significant percentage of class size. When there are over 28 students, it is difficult to manage the needs of each child and make sure they each get individualized attention within a 40 minute class period.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

