

Testimony of

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Before the

Education Committee

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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.

I could not agree more that class sizes need to have a cap. I am a 9th grade English teacher and I have experienced class sizes with 30 students and it becomes incredibly challenging to not only deliver instruction to that many students, but also extremely difficult to meet the needs of all the students in the room. Especially, as a high school teacher where we typically have 5 classes, there are some years that all my classes are extremely large ranging from 28-30 students. With five classes, this creates too big of a case load of students and I feel that I cannot meet the needs of all my students and give them the quality education that they deserve. Additionally, our classrooms are not set up for such large class sizes and therefore it also makes working in groups, or moving around the room that much more difficult and with so many students in a class students often feel on top of each other and this can create unwanted conflict and more behavioral issues. Therefore, it is extremely important to me that there be smaller class sizes and this cap needs to happen to ensure that we provide quality education to our students.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

