

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.

I work in a school district where the classes are not capped and there are so many kids in the classrooms and they want us to use SEL skills in the classroom and it is so very difficult for the teachers and I work in an amazing school with amazing administration. They feel terrible that help cannot be dispersed when there is an absence or necessary in a classroom. I work in a special needs classroom with 13 children and all on different levels, I have 2 para's in my room. However there are times when a staff is out they do their best but we are usually short staffed. Besides the classroom being so full and I was told I have the largest special needs class in our district. I take what I am given and I do my best to meet the goals and objectives of each of my students. There are times when we don't have supplies to use and it has to come out of my pocket. I love my job and have been a special education teacher for 40 years. I love each child who walks through my door. I just wish we could have a cap on kids as well as the help needed to make each of my students love to come to school and want to learn. Please help pass the caps on general education classrooms but also don't forget special education classrooms and the help needed to make education is fun and a place kids want to come everyday to learn and build their skills. I appreciate you all listening and the struggles of teachers who just want to teach and learn and grow every year and want to be in their schools everyday.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

