

Written Testimony of

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Before the Committee on Children

SB 2 AN ACT CONCERNING SOCIAL EQUITY AND THE HEALTH, SAFETY AND EDUCATION OF CHILDREN.

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This testimony is provided in reference to Sections 16-17 of the bill.

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.