

Submitter: Emily McIntire
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Education
Measure: SB48

March 6, 2023.
Chair Dembrow, Vice Chair Weber, Members of the Committee,

I would like to thank you for hearing this bill. I would ask that you support the adoption of this bill as is, without the amendment. If you haven't heard, this is an issue in every school district and one that districts spend generously to address. My request to this bill is simply this- if we don't have the ability to have a consequence- then what reason do families who culturally don't understand the importance of school attendance, those students struggling with home life, or just those who don't want to attend- have to go to school? I have spoken with Judges who have talked about the incredible relationships they have developed with families that have been sent to Truancy Court. The goal of this is not to punish the student or the family- but more- to show the importance of going to school, to have accountability at the student level. To educate the entire family. As we all know- education is the key to knowledge, and knowledge is the key to success. Sometimes we need to be made uncomfortable and held accountable for our actions to change. This bill simply allows schools the tools in their toolbox when all else has failed. Please- support the passing of HB48- without the -2 amendment.

Thank you for your time.

Blessings, Emily
Representative Emily McIntire
House District 56