

Submitter: Katie Jin

Committee: House Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic: Support HB 3012

Chair Bowman, Vice Chair Drazan, Vice Chair Pham and members of the House Committee on Rules,

My name is Katie Jin, and I am currently a Junior at the Catlin Gabel School. HB 3012 is important to me because I was in the public school system all through middle and elementary school. However, over time, my parents and I watched as many programs that were challenging me and many others academically get cut, typically with little explanation from the school or the school board. In their place, would be new technology that teachers rarely knew how to use, and weren't adding to our classroom productivity. The cutting of programs and large class sizes led my parents to have to make a hard decision to send me to a private school for the remainder of my education. This is a decision that has put a much larger financial burden on them, especially with my brother in college at the same time. I also recognize that this decision to pursue an alternative education is one that is filled with financial barriers and is not accessible to many; I already consider myself extremely lucky to have parents who are in the position to pursue an alternative. All students regardless of their socioeconomic status, should be able to have access to equitable education. This starts with giving youth the voices in their schools to nominate school board members who best represent them.

With HB 3012 in place, students would be given a chance to directly advocate for the parts of their education that are important to them. Letting students vote for their school board officials gives them more agency and accountability over their education - agency, and accountability that they

deserve. I strongly urge you to support HB 3012, because it'll give a voice to those who are most impacted by the decisions made.

Thank you,
Katie Jin