

Submitter: Erica Chaney
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Education
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3357
Chair Neron, Vice-Chairs Dobson and McIntire, and the members of the House Committee on Education

I am writing in support of HB 3357.

I am a school district employee and union member. Safety has been a big part of discussions with colleagues. While I am grateful that I do not have any personal stories to share of direct injury I can see where systems are failing in my district, a district where we have strong union engagement. We only recently began reporting safety incidents in a digital format. Prior to that it was pure paperwork. It is my understanding, based on conversations with colleagues, that, even with this improved reporting, incidents are still under-reported.

In other districts systems may be different and under-reporting may be even more significant.

Making a system of reporting that is uniform and easily accessible is vital to gaining hard data that is needed to make changes and provide appropriate support for staff that are in these difficult and dangerous situations.

Situations involving students are not the fault of the student but rather a symptom of systems failures. These system failures lead to staff burnout, turnover and other issues which are detrimental to students and their colleagues.

I urge you to support HB 3357.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Erica Chaney