

Submitter:

Tim Farris

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

House Committee On Revenue

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

HB2953

I believe the funding cap needs to be eliminated. HB2953 should be approved. More money is needed for those who are not even identified and yet are sitting in the classrooms every day.

There are many students who need Special Education services who are not currently receiving Special Education services. They are not identified because of a system that is slow (as in years) in identifying students who need Special Education services. Another system can easily identify these students simply by using a benchmark profile.

These students who have a similar profile can then be referred to a school psychologist for evaluation. The students would easily be identified for needing Special Education services or identified as not needing Special Education services. Those students who are identified as needing Special Education services would receive services immediately instead of a year later, if at all. The longer the Special Education services are delayed, the further behind the students get academically, as in years behind. Don't even think about them catching up to their grade level in a couple of years.

Why the antiquated system is in use, who knows? The cynics have their ideas. The hopefuls have their ideas.

The long drawn out process of jumping through the interventions hoop is antiquated and detrimental to the many unidentified students in all grades k-12.

I sincerely hope the funding cap is eliminated, not just for the students, but for society as a whole.