

Submitter: Tamara Madden

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Early Childhood and Human Services

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3835

Dear Committee Members,

For decades educators everywhere have safely used their hands, arms & bodies to safeguard students from harm. Whether it's firmly holding the hand of a kindergartner crossing the street or catching a second grader that's attempting to fly off a piece of playground equipment teachers are there to keep students safe. In recent years, our kids have needed extra support and occasionally teachers have to use their bodies to get between students in a physical altercation or who are attempting to get into an unsafe space. The same educators that are willing to protect students in a Code Red are now subjected to potential child abuse allegations for keeping little kids safe. It's a miscarriage of justice that not only risks the safety and wellbeing of teachers, but the rest of the students in a dangerous situation. Teachers can and should be trusted.

Sincerely,

Tamara Madden