Dear Chairperson Hartman and House Committee On Early Childhood and Human Services,

My name is Karin Teisl, and I am a teacher in Lincoln County School District. I am submitting this testimony in strong support of HB 3835, which would amend the definition of wrongful restraint and involuntary seclusion. This change will help protect educators and allow them to act in the best interest of student safety without fearing unjust child abuse allegations.

Helping students regulate when they are dysregulated can be difficult, but it is essential to keep students safe. We need to promote clarity, consistency, and fairness. It will allow educators and school staff to be better equipped to engage with students in a proactive and trauma-informed manner, eliminate confusion, and ensure consistency in how child abuse is identified and addressed.

I strongly urge the committee to support HB 3835 and its impact on students and educators.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely, Karin Teisl Lincoln County School District