

Friis, John

From: Pauline Critch-Gilfillan [pauline.critchgilfillan@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, March 15, 2009 11:30 AM
To: Friis, John
Subject: HB6666, Section 5

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Pauline Critch-Gilfillan. I am currently a junior at Amity Regional High School and ECA.. I am writing to strongly advocate for Section 5 of House Bill HB6666, which will allow for adjunct faculty certificates to be issued to the highly-trained professional artists, who serve as ECA's part-time faculty, to continue their 35-year record of preparing Connecticut's high school students for our competitive global economy. If they are required to become certified for 12-hour per week part-time positions, they will not be able to do so and the school will close. This will be a terrible loss to Connecticut's high school students in 19 school districts.

I have been in the ECA Theatre Department for two years now and I will be graduating in 2010. I can't imagine my high school career without ECA. Every single teacher is fabulous in their craft, teaching, and in general. One teacher has gone to extreme lengths to help me pursue my acting career with college help, and summer programs/internships. I have not met any teachers that could replace the current ones. Many of our superb teachers would be lost if a teaching certification is needed. In turn, I have no doubt that the quality of learning would diminish. Our teachers are definitely certified with their plethora of degrees (BFAs, MFAs etc.) and high-standing theatre experience. ECA cannot close, for many of the students the school is a safe haven away from the troubles of adolescence and the world.

Sincerely,
Pauline Critch-Gilfillan