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**Testimony in Support of  
S.B. No. 318, 'An Act Concerning Private School Transportation'**

Before the Education Committee

March 2, 2016

As a parent of Isabella Heese at Saint Mary School, I support S.B. No. 318.

Saint Mary School is providing our daughter with a structured Catholic education. This school is also very close knit & she has developed special relationships with her school mates. These I feel she will carry with her through her school years and beyond.

Catholic schools are still taking the time to teach our children some of the important tools needed. My second grader will begin learning script at the end of this school year, where my senior in high school has barely learned how to write in script. I'm told that they don't have time to teach kids this in public schools.

We currently use bus transportation for transporting to after school program. We would like the use of bus transportation to school due to work scheduling.

Please keep access to our schools alive and viable for all children by allowing state reimbursements for inter-district transportation for K-8 nonpublic schools.

For these reasons, I urge the committee to support S.B. No. 318.

Sincerely,