



Testimony before Education Committee – March 2, 2016

Dear Senator Slossberg, Representative Fleischmann and Education Committee members,

I provide this testimony in support of raised House Bill No. 5470, An Act Concerning A Pilot Program For Students In High School Interested In Pursuing A College Degree In Education.

Central Connecticut State University (CCSU) has collaborated with the Consolidated School District of New Britain (CSDNB) in the “Teacher Cadet” program since January 2014. The Teacher Cadet program has allowed CSDNB high school students to enroll in a CCSU Course, FYS 103- *Introduction to Teaching*, for three (3) academic credits. The program has been successful, though limited in its scope. That said, House Bill No. 5470 provides the opportunity to expand the one course Teacher Cadet program offering in to a well-developed, teacher preparation pathway program. This pilot program will enable CCSU to work more closely with their partners within the CSDNB to build a “grow your own” teacher preparation program that will be intended to recruit minority students to pursue careers in public education in Connecticut. I urge the Education Committee to support this piece of legislation.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michael P. Alfano".

Michael P. Alfano, Ph.D.
Dean