



State of Connecticut

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STATE CAPITOL

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PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY COMMITTEE

Testimony on Raised HB 5555

An Act Concerning The Minimum Budget Requirement...

Education Committee

March 7, 2016

Chairmen Slossberg and Fleischmann, Ranking Members Boucher and Lavielle, and members of the Education Committee. I would like to thank the Committee for the opportunity to testify in support of **rHB 5555 An Act Concerning The Minimum Budget Requirement ...**, particularly Section 2 which would exempt participation rates of school districts in the mastery examination as a category in the Accountability Index.

I believe parents have the right to opt-out their child or children from state testing. I am concerned that school districts will be penalized under ECS if a certain percentage of students' participation is not achieved. I also believe teachers need to have the time to teach critical thinking. It is an important part of education, let teachers teach and students learn.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Dave Yaccarino