

Remarks of  
a teacher and mentor  
Stamford Public Schools

To the Education Committee

March 7, 2018

My name is Maria Cahill, and I'm a World Language teacher and TEAM mentor in the Stamford Public Schools. I'd like to share with you my thoughts, concerns, and questions about SB183, specifically Section 9, which pertains to the TEAM program.

I have been teaching for about 40 and have been a mentor for at least half of those years. It is crucial for new teachers to have a support system that follows the expectations of state requirements. A new teacher is often overwhelmed when starting her career. The TEAM process allows the new teacher to comfortably and efficiently ease into teaching as well as reflect on the rigor necessary to be a high-quality educator. As a mentor, I have seen growth and dedication into a profession that changes lives. Without the financial support to maintain mentors and a common organizational method the certification process will be inconsistent.

For our state and our individual districts, please maintain the statute currently written and ensure that the State department of Education keeps TEAM dashboard as well as the funds necessary to maintain it.

Thank you in advance for your diligence in this matter.

Sincerely,  
Maria Cahill

*Maria Cahill*

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