March 05, 2019

To whom it may concern,

Please accept this letter into testimony for bill HB7250, The Improvement Of Child Development Through Play.

My name is Carolyn Hyde and I am a parent of three young girls elementary level in the New Milford school system. I am also a Head Start teacher through Ed Advance in said system. Needless to say I am on the front lines of observing children ages three through nine. I currently am also a Girl Scout leader for two troops age 7 and age 9. This is how I spend my days, with children, during and after school. I am writing in favor the the proposed bill Hb7250. Our current school culture is changing rapidly. Children come to school with higher levels of anxiety than ever before. During school hours it can often be seen children in peril and in tears because they just “can’t do it”. Study after study points to the low amount of play in school is directly correlates to this behavior. Our youngest learners have less and less time to explore on their own and develop key social skills as well as cognitive development. Many states, such as Texas, have implemented similar unstructured patterns into their students days and have seen amazing results.

Where this is a step forward in the right direction for our children it is also a bigger step in showing leadership on a scientifically researched level within the education community throughout the nation.

Thank you for your time and your support for bill HB7250.

Respectfully,
Carolyn Hyde