

Senate Education

04/29/2021 01:30 PM

HB21-1006 Fifth-day School Enrichment Programs Funding

Typed Text of Testimony Submitted

Name, Position, Representing	Typed Text of Testimony
<p>Kelly Pointer</p> <p>Against</p> <p>Self</p>	<p>Representatives,</p> <p>The past year has brought forward many challenges for Colorado's students, teachers, school administrators, and parents. I am a parent of two high school children.</p> <p>I am against HB21-1006 (Fifth day enrichment programs funding).</p> <p>This bill would not be necessary if Colorado schools were funded properly (instead of ranking 40th in the United States for per pupil funding). This bill would exacerbate the underfunding in our state's school districts instead of helping. Further, this bill demands resources from public schools to run a voucher program, which would result in unknown costs to our already underfunded public schools. Please fund our public schools, not take away funding.</p> <p>The bill text notes that "...COLORADO HAS MORE SCHOOLS ON A FOUR-DAY SCHOOL WEEK THAN ANY OTHER STATE IN THE COUNTRY; ONE HUNDRED ELEVEN OF COLORADO'S ONE HUNDRED and SEVENTY-EIGHT SCHOOL DISTRICTS ARE ON A FOUR-DAY SCHOOL WEEK; MANY SCHOOL DISTRICTS MADE THE DECISION TO MOVE TO A FOUR-DAY SCHOOL WEEK TO ADDRESS BUDGET CONCERNS AND RECOGNIZE THE NEED FOR ADDITIONAL STATE SUPPORT AND INVESTMENT IN KINDERGARTEN-THROUGH-TWELFTH-GRADE FUNDING IN ORDER TO MOVE TOWARD A RETURN TO A FIVE-DAY SCHOOL WEEK..."</p> <p>Schools and parents do not want to be on a 4 day school week schedule. What is being done to help move these school districts and students back to a 5 day a week school schedule? I cannot support a bill that takes funding away from a 5 day school week goal. This past year has shown how critical 5 day school week in-person learning is.</p>

	<p>I agree that ALL school-aged children should have needed supports; however, this bill is not the way to accomplish that.</p> <p>Please consider opposing HB21-1006. Thank you for your time and consideration.</p> <p>Kelly Pointer, parent</p>
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