Linda L. Glass

2nd Grade Teacher

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Chairman Duffey, ranking member Sweeney and members of the House Higher Education and Workforce Development Committee,

My name is Linda Glass and I am a 2nd grade teacher in the Fairfield City School District. I am a teacher with over 20 years of experience as a classroom teacher. I am writing to offer the committee my support of House Bill 58.

I taught first grade for many years and second grade for the past two years. I support the bill to require the teaching of handwriting, especially cursive. Without direct instruction, students’ handwriting is formed incorrectly and becomes difficult to read. I realize that many believe that students don’t need instruction in writing due to the high use of computers, but this is skipping a very important part of the overall instruction of language arts. Students who write, whether it be stories, or responses to stories become better readers. Most classrooms do not have enough computers for students to do all their writing via the computer. Students must learn to write legibly to excel in language arts. We also need to remember that applications and signatures need legible writing. While the world becomes more computerized, we cannot leave behind the basics. Not teaching writing would be like not teaching basic addition and subtraction in math. You need a curriculum that includes the basics and higher level instruction for students to be successful.

I also want to tell you that teaching cursive is a highlight of the year for second graders. They LOVE writing in cursive!

Thank you for support of House Bill 58!!