

Christina Steele

SB 350 – Interested Party Testimony

I have 2 children that ride the bus. They have been bus riders for 3 years now and this is the most frustrating year that we have experienced as far as transportation is concerned. The scheduled pick up time isn't even until after school starts, leaving them at least 30 minutes late To school every day. This has been stressful on all of us. The kids are always walking in mid activity and having to play catch up, it is unnecessary to force them to be behind every single day, and in turn forcing their teachers to have to stop their lessons to get my kids caught up because the bus is not reliable to get them to school on time. The rest of the kids often get to complete this work in class and my kids have to brig it home and add it to the homework they are already receiving. Getting kids to school on time should be a part of the route and nearly as important as safety. Their education matters as much as the other children whose bus does get them to school on time. I have felt before that the children from catholic schools or charter schools are often given less desirable pick up or drop off locations as well. Before we moved, my kids bus stop was on the corner of a busy intersection in a convenience store corner market parking lot, while most of the other stops were in actual neighborhoods and not busy intersections. School is already a source of uncertainty and stress this year in the midst of a pandemic, the kids being able to get to school on time Or picked up at reasonable time after should not be an added worry for parents or the kids. I hope that a solution is able to be reached, as getting to school late and picked up late is not a solution. Thank you.