

## SB358 Testimony

Chair Lehner and members of the Senate Education Committee, thank you for allowing me the opportunity to provide input regarding SB 358. My name is Paul Palomba, and I am the President of the Canton Professional Educators' Association, an organization of about 750 teachers in the Canton City School District. Normally, I diligently prepare a script to read as I advocate for or against a particular bill. This time, however, I have decided to take this opportunity to simply speak to the committee rather than read to the committee to more intimately advocate for the provisions of SB358 by telling our story by addressing the topics listed below:

- 1) Our story
- 2) Choices for all stakeholders
- 3) Safety as the number one priority
- 4) Silver lining of the pandemic
- 5) Alternative use(s) for testing data

In conclusion, it has appeared that in almost all instances, the best laid plans formulated to solve special circumstances created by the pandemic seem to unintentionally invite more questions than answers. SB358 is extensive and allows for flexibility related to timelines, policies, provisions, ordinances, and state law. This seems to be the most common- sense legislation written with regarding questions with extremely complex answers or solutions.