

Chair Brenner, Vice Chair O'Brien, Ranking Member Ingram and members of the Senate Education Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on Senate Bill 293. My name is Lowell Filak and I am from Medina County.

As a parent and volunteer for the local LifeWise program, I see the benefits of the program first hand. It is encouraging to be part of a program that works to build up children by reinforcing their worth and respect for others.

Parenting is a tough job and LifeWise works with the parents to reinforce what the children are already learning or possibly provide what parents desire to provide but are unable to. Whatever the reason is that parents and caregivers sign up students for the program, it is voluntary.

There has been a lot of talk recently about the need for parents to maintain a say in their children's future. Maintaining a parent's access to make those decisions for their children follows the principles of this great country.

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to advocate for Senate Bill 293.

Sincerely,
Lowell Filak