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HB1292/SB1019 Public Schools- Special Education

Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

Position: Support

Ways and Means Committee

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I am in support of this bill to require video surveillance in self-contained classrooms. As a public school bus attendant for many students with disabilities, I have first hand knowledge about the success of video surveillance on my bus.

The video on the bus can be reviewed and be used to identify what is happening on the bus, bullying, vandalism, student discipline issues, and driver safety issues and get the evidence that is needed to resolve problems.

For example, a student's hand was red and a little sore. The parent asked if we knew anything that happened maybe while on the bus. We both looked at the parent and said nothing happened on our bus. We told the parent to pull the video if needed as our surveillance works. I was glad that we had the video and audio surveillance to back up what we said.

The presence of bus security can help to deter unacceptable behavior and create safety measures for all. I believe this will also translate to the classroom for students who are nonverbal or have limited verbal skills. These students need protections and cameras in self contained classrooms will provide evidence on how events are handled just as it currently does on our bus!

Please support HB1292.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kayla Baldelli