



Peter Franchot  
*Comptroller*

**TESTIMONY OF COMPTROLLER PETER FRANCHOT**  
**Support - Senate Bill 577 - Public Schools - Self-Contained Special Education Classroom - Use of Video Recording Devices**

*Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee*  
*February 16, 2022*

Chair Pinsky, Vice Chair Kagan and members of the Committee, it is my pleasure to provide testimony in **support** of **Senate Bill 577 - Public Schools - Self-Contained Special Education Classroom - Use of Video Recording Devices**. I would like to thank Senator Klausmeier for sponsoring this important legislation, and the Committee for providing the opportunity for my testimony to be heard.

Many special needs students in our state are non-verbal or find it difficult to communicate effectively. This means that if they are subject to any form of abuse or neglect, they are left unable to advocate for themselves. Senate Bill 577 is designed to provide a layer of protection to special education students by providing video evidence of any suspected wrongdoing. This holds individuals accountable and serves as a deterrent for improper behavior.

Special education students deserve the same access to a safe educational environment, and Senate Bill 577 would help protect some of our most vulnerable students by increasing accountability. For the reasons stated above, I respectfully request a **favorable report** for Senate Bill 577. Thank you for your time and consideration.

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