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House Committee on K-12 Education Budget
Representative Kristey Williams, Chair

Opponent Testimony, Written-only
HB2738 – Revising the special education state aid statewide excess costs calculation to count additional funding, requiring the state board of education to determine each school district's excess costs and to establish a special education state aid equalization distribution schedule.

Chair Williams and Members of the Committee,

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

Mainstream OPPOSES HB2738, on the grounds of furthering transparency in government. This bill fundamentally alters the funding calculation for special education without review and input from all stakeholders, including the Special Education Task Force that was created for this purpose.

Members of the public were also not given ample time to review and fully comprehend the implications of this HB2738 on public school students. Conducting a transparent and accessible legislative process that provides ample opportunity for stakeholders to provide meaningful public feedback is imperative to our democratic process. However, it seems like HB2738 is being rushed through committee.

We respectfully urge you to oppose HB2738. Please refer it to the Special Education Task Force for review and recommendation, and allow the public the time needed to review and understand the drastic changes proposed to special education funding.