



January 23, 2023

Dear Chair Pryor and Members of the Education Policy Committee:

I am writing this letter to support HF345. We enthusiastically support the proposed legislation because Pillsbury United Communities' accountability framework is one of the most important contributions to school performance and evaluation in the nation. It has been a revelation to see them build a framework built on trust and reciprocity with their community. They have been dedicated to doing the hard work of learning from their community and using the voices of parents, young people, and local people to create an authorizing system that is designed to cultivate the aspirations and dreams of young people. It has been a ground up process, rather than a process built on expectations that are created by people who do not live in the community. It is hyper-local and constructed from voices that are consistently overlooked by education policy makers.

Our role has been to support PUC in building a strategy to document these voices and develop a framework from what they have heard. Our collaboration includes helping them analyze data from hundreds of surveys and many focus groups and interviews. Now that the data collection has been completed and the framework is in place, it will need to be implemented and revised over the next two years which is the focus of this appropriation.

In conclusion, we are thrilled with the progress PUC has made over the last two years and the impact that this work will have on the lives of young people and the health and prosperity of their community. Ultimately, we believe their approach will be successful because they embrace the idea that young people can be successful because of who they are and where they come from, rather than in spite of it.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tony Monfiletto".

Tony Monfiletto
Executive Director
Future Focused Education

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