Diane Nadeau Scarborough Public Schools LD 607

I strongly urge the Education and Cultural Affairs Committee to thoughtfully consider the potential ramifications of LD 607. If this bill passes, the ability of individual school districts to thoughtfully consider such requests will be severely impeded, as the bill's language imposes strict limitations on a district's ability to deny a superintendent's agreement request.

As a committee, please consider the impact on our classrooms, which would be burdened with additional students, stretching already limited resources even further. The passage of this bill is likely to increase the number of requests for students to transfer to our district and others like us, who have a solid reputation and the ability to offer comprehensive programming.

Furthermore, you must recognize the financial strain this bill would likely place on local residents for communities like Scarborough, who receive limited funding through general purpose aid and who would be expected to foot the bill for students from other communities attending our schools. Since nearly 88% of our per-pupil costs are funded by local taxpayers, this would almost certainly lead to a substantial increase in school expenditures, placing an unfair burden on our community's taxpayers.