

Good day Rep. Lyman, and all members of the Maine Joint Session of the Education and Cultural Affairs Committee.

We are a group of 1300 military and non military families that wish to voice our full support for legislation that limits and hopefully bans the use of seclusion and restraint within all Maine schools.

We join with full support for our brothers and sisters from the Alliance Against Seclusion and Restraint in voicing our support for this Bill. We echo their message and advocate for the civil rights of all students, especially those that are the most vulnerable, students with disabilities. Education is a civil right for all students, but the techniques of Seclusion and Restraint add NOTHING, no educational benefit to the education and mental well being of Maine's students and staff members of Maine's schools. In fact, it puts more people in harm's way.

The use of these techniques should be abolished for more humane methods of servicing our disabled and special education student populations.

Please support our kids and promote less restrictive approaches to education, and stress management.

Thank you!

Rich Ceruolo