

February 9, 2023

Testimony to the Senate Assessment and Taxation Committee

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TITLE: Parent

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BILL NUMBER: SB 128, Opportunity Tax Credit

PROPONENT, OPPONENT, or NEUTRAL: Opponent

ORAL or WRITTEN ONLY TESTIMONY: Written

Dear Chair & members of the committee,

I am writing to voice my opposition to bill SB 128.

As an epidemiologist, I always look to the empirical evidence to drive my decisions on what bills to support. I have reviewed the literature on vouchers and education savings accounts and am convinced that they are not beneficial to the students or the public school system. Evidence does not support that achievement improves with voucher programs or that it is a viable option for low-income families. Those who benefit are primarily high-income families – typically those already choosing private schools. There are also significant concerns with how vouchers further disadvantage those with disabilities or special needs.

Please consider these concerns as you evaluate SB 128 and ***oppose the legislation***.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dr. Christopher Kaipust

Parent

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