

COMMENTS TO OPPOSE HB346

House Full Committee on K-12 Education

Virginia General Assembly,

The Honorable Glen Davis, Chair and House Education Committee Members,

I am writing these comments to express my **opposition** to **HB346**. Within this Bill, there are 3 aspects that are of grave concern: **First**-to remove the requirement of the College/University having an Approved Accredited Teacher/Education program; **Second**-to remove a duly elected local school board as a co-equal partner with the University/College; and **Third**- **The diversion of public-school funds for private use**. When I attended Hampton University's Laboratory school in the 60's, I was the 5th child in my family to attend the Elementary Laboratory school on Hampton University's Campus. My parents paid for every dime; we attended during the height of **"Massive Resistance"** and the **"Southern Manifesto"**. This proposal is not the same kind of Laboratory school that I attended. The schools that are being proposed in this Bill, would have **"any college-without an Accredited Teacher Program"** conduct a school, at the *children's academic expense*. Thus, without a strong teacher program, the students (**targeted "at-risk", minority**) will fall behind. Furthermore, funds that would have ensured academic success through the development of the cognitive, affective and psychomotor domains of learning, are not evident in this bill. This Bill would only divert much needed funds for School Modernization and a Rigorous, Relevant and Relational Real- World, First Class Curriculum within Public Schools today. Finally, at a time when school divisions are playing "catch-up" because of learning loss due to COVID-19, this Bill is not efficacious currently. We need to focus on children and Public Education. Please do not amend the Code of Virginia for this Bill.

Sincerely,

V. Denise Harrington, 36 years, Educator; 757-777-5791-c

As of new Redistricting, I reside in Delegate Amanda Batten's

And Senator Tommy Norment's District.