



February 4, 2016

Dear Assembly Education Committee Members,

I am writing to voice my concern about two, last-minute amendments to AB 751. After being introduced yesterday, you are now being asked to vote on these amendments today, with no chance for the public to understand or for school districts to weigh in on the harmful impact of what you are voting on.

Rather than thoughtful consideration of what is best for schools in our state and the children that attend them, these are rushed amendments with no clear intent besides harming public schools. Both the changes to special education funding and private school vouchers would have real impact on our budgets for next school year.

We have continually asked lawmakers at the very least for stability, so that we can focus our time and energy on providing the very best instruction to children, not on ongoing political uncertainty. Instead, this yet another example of the unstable and harmful environment that results from putting politics over the interests of our schools.

I would ask urge you to slow down, understand the harmful impact of these changes and oppose both amendments.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jennifer Cheatham".

Jennifer Cheatham
Superintendent