

Thank you Madam Chair, Madam Vice Chair and members of the committee for the opportunity to speak against HB-1188:

I am Autumn Brooks, volunteer lobbyist with Clear Creek School District Re-1 (CCSD). While CCSD supports the intent and idea of HB-1188 as written it missed the mark and is counter intuitive to the intent.

HB-1188 essentially creates a school where every child is on an IEP. As a parent of a child requiring an IEP, this thought of other students has crossed my mind. All of our children should have an education that is tailored to how best they learn. However, knowing the amount of work our IEP staff has in public schools, as written HB-1188 is going to increase teacher workload. The average caseload for teachers in the SpEd department is quite large by comparison to other states right now. Just ask a parent of a SpEd student about their school's, through no fault of their own, lack of providing support. The system demands so much, but provides little in the way of support. Especially right now with the lack of bodies to provide the support.

In order to effectively pull this off each class would have to have multiple teachers and aids to tend to the individual needs of each student. Per pupil will not cover those costs. Either that or require that class session instruction be reduced per each student's needs in said class, and they still need to give a full week's worth of instruction in each class. This essentially means that instruction for each task in each subject be reduced to 3 minute increments. We here at the capitol are used to that, our state's children, not so much.

The part about the individual learning schools being in close proximity to a school offering an individualized learning program also creates risk of market saturation while creating learning deserts in other areas.

While CCSD supports the intent we cannot support the bill as written. CCSD urges a no vote on HB-1188