

Senate Education

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SB24-070 Remote Testing & Online Education Programs

Typed Text of Testimony Submitted

Name, Position, Representing	Typed Text of Testimony
Laurie Trinder For themselves	<p>I currently teach at Jeffco Remote Learning Program in Lakewood. Our student population originated within Jefferson County but has now expanded to students living throughout the state of Colorado. We have students living in a variety of cities including Rocky Ford, Evergreen, Greeley, Pueblo, and Sadila. As a synchronous school, we have students of whom have travelled with their families for work to New York, Arizona, Bulgaria, Iran, and multiple other countries and states this year. These families, whether living in Colorado or abroad, are not able to transport their children to our school to be tested in-person. As a result, we have a very low rate of participation which results in an inaccurate belief of lower performance and a skewed perception of our students' academic achievements. It also creates a lack of comprehensive data, hampering the Colorado Department of Education's ability to fully assess student progress statewide. I am a firm supporter of bill SB24-070, which will allow K-12 online students to take state assessments remotely. Sincerely, Laurie Trinder, Grades 4/5 Teacher</p>
Tillie Elvrum For Parent Support for Online Learning	<p>Dear Members of the Committee,</p> <p>I am writing to testify in favor of SB24-070. As a long-time online education advocate, founder of the Parent Support for Online Learning initiative, and a Colorado cyberschool graduate's parent, I can explain why remote testing options suit students, families, and our cyberschool community.</p> <p>Remote testing for K-12th grade students offers numerous advantages. It provides a flexible and comfortable environment for students, allowing them to showcase their true abilities without the stress of a traditional testing setting. Remote testing can lead to more testing participation and more accurate assessments of their knowledge and skills.</p>

	<p>Additionally, the convenience of remote testing benefits both students and educators. The in-person "testing season" has historically burdened students, families, and educators. In-person testing has strained our school resources. Setting up numerous testing sites across the state and getting students to those locations is costly and disrupts precious learning and instructional time. Remote testing will reduce logistical challenges, save time, and allow for a more efficient assessment processes. This, in turn, enables teachers to focus on personalized learning and better cater to individual student needs.</p> <p>In summary, remote testing in K-12 education not only adapts to the evolving educational landscape but also promotes fairness and inclusivity and provides cyberschools and their students to engage in the testing process fully.</p> <p>Thank You, Tillie Elvrum Founder Parent Support for Online Learning 14687 Allegiance Drive Colorado Springs, CO 80921 570-351-4745</p>
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