

Hon. Rep. _____

Atlanta, GA 30334

Dear Rep. _____,

I am writing in reference to bill #458. I am opposed to the version passed by the Senate. However, the version that is being considered by the House of Representatives is acceptable because of a change in wording.

As a parent of a student in the Fayette County public school system, I am very concerned about the burden our schools will have to bear if they are required to enroll students from other districts who have lost accreditation. These students certainly deserve a good education, but adding a large number of them to a school system so suddenly puts a strain on teachers, staff, other students, infrastructure, and services. Then, everyone suffers a lower quality of education. Taxpayers suffer as well, since property taxes will more than likely be raised to pay the costs that state funding doesn't cover.

The House's action amending SB 458 from "shall accept" to read "may accept" is a step in the right direction. It will give school systems more control over the situation and let them decide what is best for their schools. After all, they have demonstrated their abilities to make sound decisions by having schools in good standing. Don't punish them for a nearby district's inability to do so! Please keep that in mind as you vote on this matter.

Sincerely,