

February 13, 2024

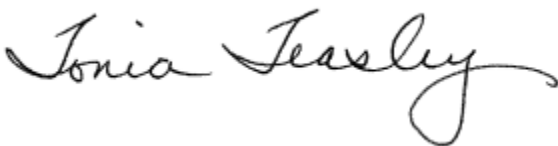
Education Policy Committee  
Minnesota Senate  
1200 Minnesota Senate Building  
Saint Paul, MN 55155

Chair Cwodzinski and Members of the Education Committee,

On behalf of PACER Center, we would like to express our concerns with the language of the proposed school resource officer (SRO) bill that would exempt SROs and law enforcement as employees or agents of the district and allow them to use prone restraint and other dangerous physical holds. Discipline practices are disproportionately used against children with disabilities who are sometimes less able to communicate distress and are more at risk for injury.

We appreciate the language that provides de-escalation trainings and supportive practices to the law enforcement who operate within our schools and interact with our students. We suggest that these training policies be pursued instead of dangerous physical holds.

Sincerely,



Tonia Teasley  
Executive Director



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