



RE: Support for SF1275 from ISAIAH's United 4 Youth Campaign

Dear Chair Kunesh and Members of the Committee,

We are writing today in support of SF1275 which increases the Extended Time Formula for the first time since 2015 and re-aligns it with the General Education Formula as it originally intended.

Members of ISAIAH launched the United 4 Youth Campaign because every child, regardless of race or income, deserves access to places, programs, and learning opportunities throughout the year that allow them to safely play, learn, and thrive in their community. We believe in the power of high-quality, public education, and ensuring equitable access to extra learning time at school which SF1275 accomplishes.

In listening sessions led by the Barbershop and Black Congregation Cooperative and the Muslim Coalition of ISAIAH over recent years, people across the state shared that access to youth programming after school and in the summertime was a top concern.

Parents and community leaders shared that local programs for youth that existed years ago seem to have disappeared. Families voiced concern that the lack of positive activities for youth outside the school day was putting young people at-risk.

The United 4 Youth campaign recognizes that when we let disinvestments in youth happen, small cutbacks—like letting funding formulas fall behind—add up over time and communities feel the impact.

Ensuring the Extended Time Formula Allowance keeps pace with the General Education Formula is a commonsense measure for youth, families, and our schools. We urge you to support SF1275 and continue investing in youth.

Sincerely,

ISAIAH

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