

Place your testimony on your school letterhead.

Introduction:

Chair Manning, Vice Chair Bird, Ranking Member Robinson, and members of the House Primary and Secondary Education Committee. Thank you for the opportunity to speak to you today regarding House Bill (HB) 583. I am (name), (role) of (school district). I am here today to testify in support of HB 583.

Body of your testimony:

Two to three paragraphs explaining the needs. Some things to consider having in your content:

- The decline in substitutes on your board-approved sub. list over the last two to three years.
 - Emphasize that this shortage was being experienced even before the pandemic (if that was true for your district) and that you do not see it improving post-pandemic.
- Explain how the shortage of substitutes has caused problems for your district, such as:
 - Closing the district or schools due to lack of subs
 - Using administrators/central office staff (and other staff members) to sub
 - Teachers giving up their conference periods to cover classes
 - Combining classrooms to be supervised by one teacher
 - Giving up specials so special area teachers can sub in regular classrooms
- Provide examples of how the temporary substitute flexibility provided in the 20-21 and 21-22 school years has helped your district.
 - "Tell the story" of those great subs who you have been able to hire because of the flexibility
 - Provide specific examples of those "rock star" subs; help the committee understand their backgrounds and what has made them good substitutes
 - Share about anything you've done to provide support to these non-traditional subs (orientation, "buddy" teachers or mentors, etc.)
- Explain what will happen in your district next year if you are not able to keep these subs on your substitute list.
- Are there any changes you'd like to see in the legislation? Explain why.
- Thank Representatives Bird and Jones for sponsoring the bill and express how important to have this bill become law before the 22-23 school year begins.

Closing:

I urge you to approve HB 583. Thank you for your time and attention. I am happy to answer any questions committee members might have at this time.