



WASHINGTON LAWYERS' COMMITTEE
FOR CIVIL RIGHTS AND URBAN AFFAIRS

April 30, 2018

The Council of the District of Columbia
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20004

Dear DC Councilmembers:

I am writing on behalf of the Washington Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights and Urban Affairs to urge you not to make any additional amendments to the Student Fair Access to School Act that will remove important protections for students and remove real accountability regarding what should be very restricted use of suspensions in DC public schools.

As our testimony in January demonstrated, implementing the SFSA without further amendments will bring DC closer to the more exacting restrictions on suspensions that many more progressive school districts have adopted across the country. DC laws should protect children from bias, and students should not be pushed out of their education at school when evidence-based, trauma-informed, restorative justice practices have been shown to address misbehavior more effectively.

Thank you for your consideration,

[KENT WITHYCOMBE, ESQ. | DIRECTOR, PUBLIC EDUCATION PROJECT](#)

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