



Wisconsin Alliance for Excellent Schools



Wisconsin Board for People with Developmental Disabilities



disabilityrights WISCONSIN Protection and advocacy for people with disabilities.

To: Assembly Speaker Robin Vos, Senate Majority Leader Scott Fitzgerald  
Members of the Wisconsin Legislature

<p>From: Autism Society of South Central Wisconsin Autism Society of Southeastern Wisconsin Disability Rights Wisconsin Dodger Community Network Fox Cities Advocates for Public Education Mental Health America of WI Milwaukee Teachers' Education Association NAMI Wisconsin Public School Advocates of Lincoln County Parents for Public Schools-MKE Schools and Communities United SOS-SW Wisconsin</p>	<p>Sun Prairie Action Resource Coalition (SPARC) Support Sun Prairie Schools Survival Coalition of Wisconsin Disability Organizations The Arc Wisconsin Wisconsin Alliance for Excellent Schools Wisconsin Board for People with Developmental Disabilities Wisconsin Education Association Council Wisconsin Family Ties Women Committed to an Informed Community</p>
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Contact: Joanne Juhnke, Policy Director, Wisconsin Family Ties  
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Date: November 6, 2017

RE: Opposition to LRB-0917, the "Teacher Protection Act"

The above-signed organizations that represent and support teachers, students, families, and public schools, are writing to express our opposition regarding LRB-0917, known as the "Teacher Protection Act."

All teachers and students deserve a safe environment in which to teach and learn. Unfortunately, the measure does not address improving safety through providing needed supports, services, staffing

levels, and professional development. Instead, the proposal would occasion the following harmful effects:

- Infringing on student privacy rights
- Encouraging ineffective, punitive responses to disability-related behavior
- Creating detrimental linkages between out-of-school incidents and school records
- Expanding the "school to prison pipeline"
- Undermining the administrative chain of command, potentially placing teachers, administrators, and school boards at odds over established policy
- Compromising due process rights regarding suspension for students with disabilities
- Disproportionately affecting students with disabilities and mental health challenges
- Disproportionately affecting students of color
- Imposing unnecessary reporting categories for suspension and expulsion

We request that members of the Wisconsin Legislature join us in opposing LRB-0917.