

Alliance for Childhood Education  
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Testimony for the House K-12 Budget Committee  
HB 2410  
Oppose

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony today regarding HB 2410

As we have testified to this committee previously, the Alliance for Childhood Education believes that the baseline for any new school finance system must include full-day Kindergarten as well as increased investments in at-risk pre-K. It is the foundation upon which the rest of a child's education is built and we cannot build a world-class system on an inadequate foundation.

We truly appreciate and recognize the hard work of this committee and its chairman to get us to this point, however we are opposed to HB 2410 as it stands for two reasons:

1. This legislation does not provide targeted investments in at-risk pre-k programs (we recommend \$9 million annually); and
2. The full-day Kindergarten phase-in still leaves 4 more years of children without appropriate resources in Kindergarten (almost \$22 million).

This proposal seeks to spend a little more than \$3 billion and we believe it's wise to invest a little more on the front-end to ensure the foundation of the system is solid.