

Public comment to be read and submitted to Education committee regarding HB-4728.

House Education Committee,

My name is Matt Smith and I serve on the Davison Board of Education as one of Michigan's youngest elected school board members. I write to you not only as a board member, but an engaged citizen of Michigan.

I would first like to thank Reps. Bollin, Hornberger, Paquette, Lightner, Bellino, S. Johnson, Beson, Roth, Maddock, Allor, Markkanen, Griffin, Eisen and Meerman for referring this Bill to the Education committee for imperative discussion.

The students' in my district of Davison and in every other part of our state work hard from kindergarten through 12th grade to obtain their diploma. Some students put in the extra work with early college and spend even longer awaiting their special day. This is the day they dream about and envision. Davison is home to some amazing accomplishments such as the division one football and wrestling state championship titles. We are proud of each one of our students and as you can see, we have a lot to celebrate. I support HB-4728 because it allows our children to get the proper ceremony and celebration they rightfully deserve. The bill is spot on: "an emergency order issued under this section shall not prohibit or otherwise limit a high school graduation commencement ceremony." Despite what some believe, It is possible to conduct graduation during a pandemic safely and efficiently. The bottom line is: this bill allows us to keep our kids and community safe while honoring the traditions and children who have earned this. I encourage the passing of this bill and I'm sure our children and parents would, too. Thank you for the work you do on the Education committee and allowing us elected Board members to voice our opinions in the process.

Respectfully,

Matt Smith,

Davison Board of Education

Davison Community Schools

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