



June 16, 2016

The Honorable Bruce Rauner
Governor
207 State House
Springfield, IL 62706

Dear Governor Rauner:

The Illinois Statewide School Management Alliance (which includes: Illinois Association of School Boards, Illinois Association of School Administrators, Illinois Association of School Business Officials and Illinois Principals Association) respectfully asks you to veto House Bill 6299.

The bill takes away a local bargaining matter that is and should be negotiated at the local level and should not be decided by lawmakers in Springfield. House Bill 6299 removes local control from a duly elected school board and grants benefits to district employees that will cost taxpayers more money.

Under current law, education support personnel have recall rights for the position they were dismissed from under a reduction in force. HB 6299 guarantees that an education support personnel not only retain their previous position, but also that they retain often costly and outdated benefits that districts can no longer afford.

In many districts, education support personnel are “at will” employees. A school district with “at will” education support personnel has the right to terminate the employment of this class of employee without using the reduction in force. The unintended consequence of HB 6299 could be the outright dismissal of education support personnel instead of school districts using reduction in force.

One of the major tenants of the Turnaround Agenda is local collective bargaining reform. House Bill 6299 is in opposition of the reforms and will only serve to limit local control and cost taxpayers in the long run.

Thank you for your consideration of our request. We look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

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Illinois Statewide School Management Alliance

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