

**Education Advocacy Coalition  
for Students with Disabilities**

**BUDGET AND TAXATION COMMITTEE**

**SENATE BILL 892**

**Education - Minimum Wage for Education Support Professionals**

**March 4, 2025**

**POSITION: SUPPORT**

The Education Advocacy Coalition for Students with Disabilities (EAC), a coalition of nearly 50 organizations and individuals concerned with education policy for students with disabilities, supports Senate Bill 892, which would establish a minimum wage for education support professionals.

EAC members collectively have vast experience representing or supporting students with disabilities and their families throughout the state and recognize that education support professionals play an essential role in supporting students, especially students with disabilities. Education support professionals can fulfill a range of roles in schools, from providing students with one-to-one assistance and assisting with feeding, toileting, mobility, and other activities essential to student safety and participation throughout the school day to reducing staff/student ratios, providing redirection, and reinforcing behavior intervention plans. For students whose individualized education programs (IEPs) require the assistance of a “dedicated aide” “1:1 support” or other direct assistance from an education support professional, retention and hiring barriers can result in disciplinary action, stalled progress, or even regression for students with disabilities if they do not receive the personal, behavior or instructional support they need to be successful in school.

Some districts have created pathways for education support personnel to become teachers, recognizing the value that support professionals bring to the classroom and the benefit they provide to students who need individual support to access and benefit from their education. Particularly given staff turnover and personnel shortages in schools, it is important that education support professionals be compensated at a minimum pay rate that recognizes the important role they have in ensuring that children have access to and can make meaningful progress in school. For these reasons, the EAC supports Senate Bill 892.

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Respectfully submitted,

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Education Advocacy Coalition Testimony: Senate Bill 892

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