



FINANCIAL
PLANNING
ASSOCIATION

1290 Broadway, Suite 1625
Denver, CO 80203
(800) 322-4237
financialplanningassociation.org

February 26, 2026

RE: Letter of Support for H.B. 943

Dear Chair Wilkins, Vice Chair Feldmark, and Committee Members,

The Financial Planning Association® (FPA®) strongly supports H.B. 943, which will require all students to receive financial literacy education and high school students to complete a personal finance education program to graduate. FPA is the leading membership organization for CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™ professionals and those engaged in the financial planning process.

FPA® supports nearly 17,000 members and 79 chapters and state councils. FPA® encourages high standards of professional competence, ethical conduct, and clear, complete disclosure when serving clients. Members work with clients on topics ranging from budgeting, debt management, student loans, credit card debt, insurance, taxes, retirement, investments, and estate planning.

As one of its core policy issues, FPA® recognizes that financial literacy is a vital component of helping Americans live healthy financial lives, and that improving financial literacy education in the United States is a particularly important goal. FPA® encourages schools to teach the basic components of personal financial management to help with vital financial functions such as understanding credit, savings, loans, home and rent responsibilities and how to manage debt responsibly.

Recent research has shown that investment in financial literacy education will result in significant positive economic benefits. This study found that, “there is a lifetime positive benefit of approximately \$100,000 per student from guaranteeing that a high school student takes a one-semester course in personal finance.”¹

A 2018 Brookings Institution analysis of financial education policies and programs found that: “The lack of basic financial knowledge and skills among youth today is of national concern. American high school students routinely fail tests that evaluate their financial knowledge and are ill-prepared to face important decisions about borrowing, saving, investing, and planning for their financial futures.”² According to NextGen Personal Finance³ 25 states already **require** (or are in the process of implementing) high school students to complete a personal finance course. By passing H.B. 943 will join the growing number of states requiring that students take a personal financial literacy course in order to graduate, taking a proactive step to help prepare students for independence, financial wellness, and successful adult lives.

For these reasons, FPA® is proud to strongly support H.B. 943 and respectfully asks for your “yes” vote when it comes before your committee.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lauren Loney".

Lauren Loney
Financial Planning Association
Public Policy Counsel
lloney@onefpa.org

¹ Next Gen Personal Finance. (2024). Investing in Tomorrow: Lifetime Value of Financial Education in High School. Available at: <https://tytonpartners.com/investing-in-tomorrow-2024/>.

² Kasman, M., Heuberger, B., & Hammond, R. The Brookings Institution. A Review of Large-Scale Youth Financial Literacy Education Policies and Programs (2018). Available at: https://www.brookings.edu/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/ES_20181001_Financial-Literacy-Review.pdf.

³<https://www.ngpf.org/bill-tracker/>



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