

To the House Committee:

I urge you to continue to fund diploma completion programs like New Directions. They serve such a vital purpose in the lives of people who have fallen through the cracks or need a second chance.

For so many reasons, such as poverty, home situations, choices, and a lack of control over their lives, people need options to finish high school to better themselves. Taking away this safety net will severely limit options for way too many people.

I don't know why there is any consideration for cutting off the most needy among us any more than I understand the vicious attacks on public education, but voters are going to start holding their representatives accountable for such obvious and harmful legislation.

Sincerely,

Kate Scarbrough,

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Lifelong public high school teacher and voter