

February 8, 2024

Rep. Kelly Moller, Chair  
Rep. Sandra Feist, Vice Chair  
House Public Safety Finance and Policy Committee

Chair Moller, Vice Chair Feist, and Members of the Public Safety Finance and Policy Committee,

I am a former school psychologist who is appalled at the idea of authorizing school resource officers, police officers, and security officers to use prone restraints and air restrictive restraints on children in schools. The new SRO bill should be blocked. NO ONE should be allowed to use these kinds of procedures on students! These restraints are considered too dangerous to use on adults in prison. How can they be okay for children?

Students of color and students with disabilities tend to receive harsher treatment, possibly as a result of Implicit bias. Students with disabilities in particular are at greater risk of injury, and many have more difficulty communicating distress. Kids should feel safe in school. Restraints do more harm than good and create ongoing trauma for students.

Training is not good enough to prevent injury and should not be a reason to back slide on the fabulous bill passed in 2023. Trained law enforcement officers have killed people.

Please maintain the protections for students that last year's bill put in place. This year's SRO bill should not pass.

Thank you.

Betty Greene, Former Educator  
Duluth MN