



Governor's Advisory Council for Exceptional Citizens (GACEC)
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MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 24, 2023

TO: The Honorable Members of the Delaware General Assembly

FROM: Ann C. Fisher, Chairperson
GACEC

RE: **House Bill No. 66 Public Education Profiles**

The Governor's Advisory Council for Exceptional Citizens (GACEC) has reviewed House Bill No. 66, which proposes to amend §124A of Title 14 of the Delaware Code. §124 details the issuance of Delaware Public Education Profiles. Public Education Profiles monitor progress and trends toward Delaware's educational goals and provide citizens with information to make good choices for children while holding the public education system accountable for both performance and use of funds. Council **supports** the proposed legislation as it will add clarity and strengthen the value of information provided in Public Education Profiles.

The amendment states the following: "Education Profiles must compare the data required under this section by each school, school district, and at the statewide level. The Department's Education Profiles website must provide side-by-side comparisons of this data for different schools and school districts so that data for multiple entities can be reviewed at the same time."

Council recommends that the Delaware Department of Education in comparing the data, make every effort to ensure that the data collected and compared is utilizing the same definitions and data structure. Comparisons should only be provided when the data structures are known to be equivalent; otherwise the Department may be guilty of comparing not apples to oranges but Red Delicious to Gala apples. This is also true regarding comparisons of national and regional data to Delaware data.

One concern with the proposed amendment is the subjectivity of what is practicable and informative when comparing Delaware Education Profiles to national, regional, and other state

data. To remove subjectivity from the inclusion of what is likely relevant information, mandatory inclusion of this data should be considered.

Thank you for your time and consideration of our support of the proposed legislation. Please feel free to contact me or Pam Weir at the GACEC office should you have any questions.