

April 23, 2020

Dear Utah Legislators;

The Legislative Coalition for Persons with Disabilities (LCPD), the USU Center for Persons with Disabilities, the Utah Disability Law Center and the Utah Parent Center oppose HB 4003 on the grounds that it removes parent and student rights to “free and appropriate public education” as enumerated in the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). For years advocates have worked to ensure that students with disabilities are included in our public schools and have access to equal educational opportunities with their peers. HB 4003 encourages segregation and provides an incentive for parents to waive the legal protections their child with a disability is entitled to under IDEA.

We encourage you to oppose this bill and use the funding allocated for this measure to support and strengthen special educational services in Utah’s public schools.

Sincerely,

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