

Via Email: PamelaHornberger@house.mi.gov

May 2, 2021

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Representative Pamela Hornberger Chair, House Education Committee

251 Capitol Building PO Box 30014

Lansing, MI 48909-7514

Re: Support for HB 4728

Dear Representative Hornberger,

Over the past 14 months, Michigan schools have demonstrated the ability to safely educate hundreds of thousands of children day after day. School staff members are well versed in mitigation measures that include masks, social distancing, and hand hygiene. School staff are more than capable of organizing a safe graduation ceremony to honor this year's graduates. Our students deserve it.

It is not uncommon for a high school graduating class to have more than 300 students. The current MDHHS gathering orders do not allow for indoor commencement ceremonies. Current orders also restrict outdoor gatherings such that many outdoor venues would not permit an entire graduating class to attend at one time with only two parents accompanying each student.

We support HB 4728. With graduation quickly approaching we urge the House Education Committee to favorably report the bill as soon as possible.

Respectfully,

The Board of Directors

Oakland County School Boards Association

cc: House Education Committee Clerk T. Thrush thrush@house.mi.gov
David Randels, Oakland Schools