



July 11, 2017

The Honorable Senator Allen
Chair, Senate Education Committee
State Capitol, Room 2083
Sacramento, California 95814

RE: AB 1164 (Thurmond) as amended July 6, 2017 - OPPOSE

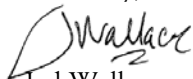
Dear Chair Allen,

As advocates for California's students, we write to express our opposition to AB 1164. AB 1164 would take California backwards on teacher permanent status and support for struggling teachers. Instead of providing additional time and focus on helping teachers struggling to reach journey level permanent status, this bill focuses on dismissal and promotes an adversarial relationship between teachers and their evaluators and school leaders.

The current system of probation for teachers is not working but in AB 1164, Assemblymember Thurmond takes California backwards. It creates an unworkable system that will discourage school leaders from giving new teachers who need extra support and guidance the time and opportunities for development. And discouraging districts to hold on to staff and invest in their success, it makes it impossible for all students to be taught by well-trained teachers prepared for success in classrooms they're assigned to lead. I ask that you please vote NO on AB 1164.

Thank you for taking the time to oppose this legislation and support the continued success of all students.

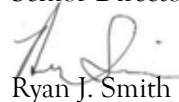
Sincerely,



Jed Wallace
CEO, California Charter Schools Association



Brad Strong
Senior Director, Children Now



Ryan J. Smith
Executive Director, The Education Trust-West



Bill Lucia
President & CEO, EdVoice



Steve Barr
CEO, Future is Now



Luis Santana
Executive Director, Reading and Beyond



Seth Litt
Executive Director, Parent Revolution



Hillary Moglen
Policy and Advocacy Director, Students Matter

CC: Assemblymember Thurmond
Members of the Senate Education Committee