

To: House Finance Committee  
House Bill No.8047 RELATING TO EDUCATION -- BUILDING OPPORTUNITIES IN  
OUT-OF-SCHOOL TIME  
From: Elias Camilo  
RE: Testimony in Strong Support of House Bill No.8047  
Date: May 9, 2024

Dear Members of the House Finance Committee,

My name is **Elias Camilo** and a Youth Member at Young Voices . I am here in support of HB.8047 introduced by Rep Shallcross Smith, which provides \$4 million to support after-school and school vacation, summer learning workforce development programs for K-12 students with annual reports on status and programs.

This bill is important to me because after-school programs help students learn about different cultures and interact with different people. After-school programs provide an opportunity to make new friends and meet people from a variety of schools. I was able to make long-term friends by meeting them and participating with them in a program. We would never have crossed paths if we hadn't participated in the program.

Students don't always have it easy, so having a fun place to relax, eat, and simply enjoy yourself before having to return home is sometimes all a student needs to feel at ease.

Also, summer programs also provide me with financial support and help me develop my workforce skills.

Currently, 59,000 local youth are without out-school time program opportunities. It is critical that we invest in Out-of-School-Time so that every student has access to comprehensive and effective programming during the afterschool and summer learning.

I really hope you consider how important this is to me. We are depending on you to make the right decision.

Thank you for your time and attention today.

Elias Camilo  
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