



NASHUA TEACHERS' UNION
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Adam A. Marcoux
President

January 30, 2017

New Hampshire Executive Council
107 North Main Street
State House, Room 207
Concord, NH 03301

Re: Written Testimony in Opposition to the Nomination of Frank Edelblut for Commissioner of Education

Dear Honorable Members of the Executive Council,

First, I would like to thank the members of the Executive Council for this opportunity to speak this afternoon. My name is Adam Marcoux, and I reside in Nashua with my wife, 2 children, and one due in April. I am a lifelong resident of Nashua, a product of the Nashua School District, and a graduate of Keene State College where I earned a Bachelor's degree and was certified as to teach kindergarten through grade 8. I also have a Master's degree in Curriculum and Instruction from Southern New Hampshire University. I care deeply about the future of our state and the education that is provided to all the students of New Hampshire.

I have been employed by the Nashua School District since 2008 where I was a first and fifth grade teacher. Since August 2016, I have served as President of the Nashua Teachers' Union. I represent more than 1,500 teachers, paraeducators, school secretaries and cafeteria employees who work in our schools. If this hearing had been held outside of the school day, I am sure you would have had many more people in attendance to express the same concerns I will share with you. During my time as a classroom teacher, I saw the many different successes and challenges students face in the 21st century. Also, during this time, I worked with my colleagues and administrators to improve the educational experience for children in the Nashua School District. Although we all played a different role, there were two things they connected us: our students and our training and instruction in the education field.

I oppose Governor Sununu's nomination of Mr. Edelblut as Commissioner of Education for several reasons.

- Mr. Edelblut has no background in the field of education
- Mr. Edelblut has no formal training on the operations of a school district
- Mr. Edelblut has no training on curriculum writing and best-practices in education



According to RSA21-N:3,I, *the commissioner and deputy commissioner shall be qualified to hold their positions by reason of education and experience.* In my opinion, one who is to head or oversee the operations of New Hampshire's school districts and education of students should have a background in education. While I would agree Mr. Edelblut is well educated, neither degree is applicable to successfully running and managing the Department of Education. For that reason, and the others I have stated, I respectfully request your reject Governor Sununu's nomination of Mr. Edelblut as Commissioner of Education.

Respectfully Submitted,

Adam A. Marcoux

President, Nashua Teachers' Union

American Federation of Teachers, Local 1044

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