February 16, 2018

Senate Early Learning & K-12 Committee Members
Washington State Legislature
Olympia, WA 98504

Dear Members,

I am writing on behalf of the statewide Childhood Obesity Prevention Coalition where we look for opportunities to make the healthy choices easier for our children and all of our community members. We are in strong support of HB 2311.

Today, about 1 in 5 school-aged children is obese. Enabling physical activity in the school setting not only improves educational outcomes, but also teaches lifelong healthy habits that reduce the risk of chronic disease later in life. Sometimes, it can be the only sure opportunity children have for physical activity. However, there are equity and access issues for some of our students.

This bill takes on current inequities through a number of key provisions, including fee limitations and the PLAY Grant Program. HB 2311 will enable greater access to physical activity that can yield benefits for improved health status as well as readiness to learn.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Victor Colman, Director
Childhood Obesity Prevention Coalition

Cc. Susan Mielke, Senior Coordinator/Counsel
**COALITION MEMBERS**

- Action for Healthy Kids – WA Chapter
- American Academy of Pediatrics – WA Chapter
- American Cancer Society, Inc. (ACS)
- ACS – Cancer Action Network
- American Diabetes Association
- American Heart Association
- American Planning Association – WA Chapter
- Arcora
- Arthritis Foundation
- Cascade Bicycle Club Education Foundation
- Children’s Alliance
- Coalition for Safety & Health in Early Learning
- Feet First
- Food Action
- Forterra
- Foundation for Healthy Generations
- Grant County Health District
- Healthy King County Coalition
- Hope Heart Institute
- MultiCare Health Systems
- Nutrition First
- Odessa Brown Children’s Clinic
- Physical Therapy Association of Washington
- Public Health Roundtable
- Pure Food Kids Foundation
- San Juan County Health and Community Srvcs
- Sea Mar Community Health Centers
- Seattle Children’s
- Seattle and King County Public Health
- Seattle Parks and Recreation
- Shape Washington
- Skagit County Healthy Communities Project
- Snohomish Health District
- Spokane Regional Health District
- Tacoma Pierce County Health Department
- Transportation Choices
- WA Assn of Community & Migrant Health Ctrs
- Washington Bikes
- Washington Recreation & Park Association
- Washington School Nutrition Association
- WA St Assn of Local Public Health Officers
- WA State Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics
- Washington State Dairy Council
- Washington State PTA
- Washington State Public Health Association
- Washington Trails Association
- WithinReach
- Yakima County Memorial Hospital
- YMCA – Greater Seattle