

Hello,

My name is Jennifer Moore, and I live in Manchester, Vermont with my two children, ages 10 and 7. I am unable to attend a meeting of the Vermont House and Senate Appropriations Committee but appreciate the opportunity to submit written testimony.

I am writing regarding funding for quality afterschool and summer learning programs. I would like to request the legislature fund the Expanded Learning Opportunities (ELO) Special Fund with an appropriation of \$2.5 million for Fiscal Year 2019. An annual appropriation of \$2.5 million would ensure all high-need communities in Vermont could get the financial support they need to make sure that children, youth, and families have access to quality afterschool and summer learning programs.

Quality after school and summer learning programs are essential to my family. As a full time working single parent, I rely on our after school program to provide high quality learning and play time for my children while I finish my workday. The after school program also provides nutritious snacks, an opportunity for my kids to do their homework and to get outside and play with their friends. Our after school program also provides the chance for my kids to be involved in community projects, like working in the community garden and reading to senior citizens at the local assisted living community.

I respectfully request that the Appropriations committees make the financial commitment to support expanded learning opportunities for all kids in VT by allocating funds to the ELO Special Fund in FY19.

Thank you for your attention.

Very truly yours,
Jennifer Moore
Manchester, Vermont