

SAMPLE LETTER – Modify as you see fit

Date

Honorable Senator Cortese  
Senate Education Committee  
State Capitol, Room 2083  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: OPPOSE SB 692**

Dear Senator Cortese, & Members of the Senate Education Committee:

I am a \_\_\_\_\_ (parent, teacher, Deaf student, Concerned member of the Deaf Community, Interpreter, CODA, Tax-paying Citizen), writing to express my strong opposition to SB 692 as it relates to Deaf and Hard of Hearing Children’s education and placement.

SB 692 will “prioritize Least Restrictive Environment as measured by a percentage of pupils with individualized education programs who are 6 to 21 years of age., inclusive, and served inside in a regular classroom 80 percent or more of the day”.

I oppose this blanket approach towards all children with disabilities. Total inclusion is a denial to a supportive, accommodating environment, a denial to an accessible language rich environment.

Can add other reasons: (list at least 3 reasons briefly use bullets).

This bill is misleading legislators about Federal Law regarding Special Education Indicator 5A. Indicator 5A is not intended as a benchmark, nor is it required! Additionally, this bill does not clearly show that the data collection also includes 5B and 5C asking for percentages of students attending other programs. This is simply a collection of data that is not required by states.

Furthermore, by prioritizing LRE, SB 692 disregards a Deaf students’ right to placement based on their communication needs as required by state laws CA Educ Code § 56360 and CA Educ Code § 56361.

Upon closing, (any closing remarks that you feel are important).

I ask that each Member on the Senate Education Committee support Deaf and Hard of Hearing Students rights and **vote NO on SB 692**.

Sincerely,

Your Name  
Mailing Address or Email