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May 16, 2018

The Honorable Anna Lopez Brosche Council President, Jacksonville City Council City Hall at St. James 117 West Duval Street, Suite 425 Jacksonville, Florida 32202

Dear Council President Brosche.

Last week, without notice and in the course of a single evening, City Council advanced a resolution voicing support for criticism of a Florida Board of Education policy that was years in the making.

Without any testimony from those who have proposed standardized testing changes, and based on the testimony of one local school board member, the Council affirmed language that seems to imply such changes are actually meant to harm young people.

When I received this legislation the next day, I asked my staff to research the issue and talk to proponents and opponents alike. I sought and have received much information.

As a result of the work, and a belief that the Florida BOE is appropriately working to ensure that in future years all students strive for an even higher level of achievement, I am returning Resolution 2018-332 to you without my signature.

As a parent with three children in Duval County Public Schools, I appreciate the work of our teachers, the Superintendent and board members. I hope that they will continue to rise to the challenge of making certain our children are prepared to succeed in a global community that is ever-changing.

Sincerely,

Lenny Curry