

well-meaning administrators from being sold a bill of goods by a private company that violates the civil rights of students, parents and employees.

Thankfully, lawmakers have addressed these concerns in legislation filed this session. H.135, An Act To Regulate Face Surveillance, sponsored by Representatives Rogers and Ramos, and S.47, sponsored by Senator Creem, provide for some useful policy solutions to the ones outlined above.

H.135 and S.47 prohibit the use of facial recognition for surveillance of any public spaces. As a result, government agencies, including schools, would be forbidden from using our biometric characteristics to track our activities and locations in schools. The only agencies allowed to use and possess this technology are the Registrar of Motor Vehicles and the State Police, subject to strict limitations and civil rights protections.

I encourage you to consider bills H.135 and S.47 when you decide on further regulations of the use of biometric surveillance technology by government entities. We need strong regulations to ensure it doesn't infringe on our civil rights and civil liberties, and this legislation provides an excellent model. We need to ensure that our public schools remain safe and trusted institutions for the students we serve and their families, as well as our educators.

Thank you for your attention and consideration.