

Eric Booth  
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February 10, 2020

Dear Representative Toni Walker, Appropriations Committee Chair, and  
Representative Michael DiMassa, Appropriations Vice Chair,  
And the Appropriations Committee,

**TESTIMONY FOR THE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE regarding BILL 5005:**

I visit *music for social change* programs around the U.S. and world. I proudly brag about the excellence of the Music Haven program wherever I go. You have a gem in your state, making a difference to many young people, launching them on lives with an entirely new trajectory of promise. Save Music Haven's funding.

I hear that in your proposed budget, you have singled out Music Haven to be eliminated from the budget, while leaving other music organizations funded. This makes no sense. Music Haven has at least as much actual positive social change impact as the others, and in my view, more. Please do not devastate the funding of an excellent, high-achieving organization. When you have a gem that makes a difference for the neediest people in the state, do not cut them off. Save Music Haven's funding.

Thank you,

**Eric Booth**

Eric Booth  
International Arts Learning Consultant  
Longtime faculty member at Juilliard, The Kennedy Center, Lincoln Center, and  
recipient of America's highest award in arts education.