

Chairman Jones, Vice Chair Manchester, Ranking Member Robinson, and members of the committee, thank you for providing the opportunity to submit written testimony in opposition to House Bill 322.

My name is Stan Iddings, and I have been an educator in Ohio for about 14 years. I have also been a RESA assessor for the last 6 years. In both positions, I believe that young people in Ohio have been well served.

Probably all of us, when reflecting on our education, would say that we have had teachers with a wide range of abilities and effectiveness. As an assessor, I see one of my most important duties is to point out areas where Resident Educators need to work on their skills. With proper follow up by mentor teachers, these new teachers have the opportunity to improve their overall effectiveness.

In my experience as an assessor, I have seen a lot of Resident Educators who are doing a great job teaching Ohio's young people. Unfortunately, in about 5 percent of the submissions I scored, I observed teachers who are not prepared to lead a classroom, and I have to wonder how these new teachers graduated with a degree in Education.

In some colleges, the student success rate in getting their education degree, as well as the rate of graduates finding employment, are important statistics in student recruitment. Thus, for the college's financial success, they may grant degrees and then aid in job placement for some unqualified to teach. This is not fair to the teacher or the students.

The RESA process can raise a red flag and help identify new teachers who need additional support. Every student in Ohio deserves a teacher who can demonstrate the Ohio Standards for the Teaching Profession, and the RESA helps make this a reality.

For these reasons, I ask you to vote no on House Bill 322.

Sincerely,

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