Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony in opposition to House Bill 322.

My name is Mary Inmon-Teglovic, and I live in Huron County. I have a Bachelor’s Degree from Ohio Northern University in mathematics and computer science, a Master’s Degree in Curriculum and Instruction from Ashland University and a Master’s in Leadership from the University of Cincinnati. I have also served as a mentor and facilitator for the Resident Educator Program and as a district mentor and coordinator for our local mentoring program. During the 1990’s, I served as a Praxis III assessor and trainer for 7 years and now I work with the Resident Educator Summative Assessment (RESA).

With 39 plus years in education, I have been involved with mentoring and the assessment of beginning teachers since 1993 and I am strongly opposed to House Bill 322, which would abolish the years 3 and 4 in the Resident Educator (RE) Program and the Resident Educator Summative Assessment (RESA).

Over the past several years, the RESA has evolved from five tasks, four tasks to the current one task that was custom-designed based on the feedback of Ohio educators to meet the needs of our beginning teachers. The current RESA task involves a video-taped lesson where a teacher demonstrates the core Ohio Standards for the Teaching Profession and reflects on the lesson in their written responses. After the task is scored, the Resident Educator receives a score report with comprehensive feedback, which provides a starting point for conversations with their mentor and/or program coordinator.

Ohio Department of Education and TeachForward have created multiple layers of support for the Resident Educators, mentors, facilitators, program coordinators and administrators. Resources can be found on the Ohio RESA website, and a help desk is available to answer questions.

As a veteran educator, I am passionate about education and the future of the profession I have been part of for more than 39 years. The four-year Resident Educator Program provides the support and feedback needed to grow and learn. Without years 3 and 4 in the Resident Educator Program and the performance-based assessment (RESA), school districts will
gradually phase out their support for mentoring. The RESA prompts beginning teachers to reflect on their practice and talk to their mentors about areas where they are struggling, so they can improve and be prepared for the RESA. The structure of the RESA encourages these conversations. Since the teacher’s mentor or administrator does not score their RESA submission, they can be open about their weaknesses and ask for help.

I urge you to continue the support for our new teachers in Ohio by voting no on the House Bill 322 to abolish the years 3 and 4 of the Resident Educator Program and the Resident Educator Summative Assessment.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,
Mary Inmon-Teglovic
Resident Educator Program Coordinator
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