

CATHOLIC CONFERENCE OF OHIO

November 5, 2019

The Honorable Derek Merrin
Ohio House Ways and Means Committee
77 S. High St., 13th floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Dear Chairman Merrin,

I am writing on behalf of the Catholic Bishops of Ohio and the Superintendents of Schools of the six dioceses concerning our support for HB 135. We believe this bill will provide parents of school aged children some well deserved financial relief in getting their youngsters prepared to return to school each year.

We were pleased with the success of the previous sales tax holidays. We support enhancing Ohio's back-to-school sales tax holiday by increasing the dollar threshold on clothing and footwear from \$75 per item to \$100 per item; school supplies and instructional materials from \$20 per item to \$100 per item; and adding laptops, netbooks and tablets up to \$2,000 per item to the exemption list.

We thank Representative Antani for proposing such increases.

Sincerely,



Carolyn M. Jurkowitz
Executive Director