

Dave Yost · Auditor of State

VIA EMAIL

September 11, 2017

The Honorable Andrew Brenner, Chairman House Education and Career Readiness Committee 77 S. High Street, 13th Floor Columbus, OH 43215

Dear Chairman Brenner,

I write today to offer support for House Bill 21, which requires community schools, rather than the home district, to verify the resident district of each of their students.

Following my office's 2013 school attendance data audit, it became apparent that the current student verification and attendance system has many cracks that must be filled. It creates loopholes and opportunity for error, fraud, and data scrubbing. House Bill 21 is a common-sense initiative that aims to create a more efficient system for establishing student residency, as well as increasing accountability in school funding.

I support House Bill 21 and commend Representative Hambley for his leadership on this issue. I would be happy to discuss this issue with you or any members of the committee at your convenience.

Sincerely,

Dave Yost

Ohio Auditor of State

Cc: The Honorable Stephen D. Hambley

Members of the House Education Committee