

October 7, 2017

Rep. Andrew Brenner, Chair, Education and Career Readiness Committee  
Rep. Marilyn Slaby, Vice-Chair, Education and Career Readiness Committee  
Rep. Teresa Fedor, Ranking Member, Education and Career Readiness Committee  
77 South High Street  
Columbus, Ohio 43215  
Re: House Bill 200, Create Opportunity Scholarship Program

Dear Rep. Brenner, Rep. Slaby and Rep. Fedor,

I am writing to encourage your support, as well as that of the entire Education and Career Readiness Committee, for House Bill 200, which would create the Opportunity Scholarship Program.

I am the father of two children that are currently using the EdChoice Expansion Scholarship to attend Lakewood Lutheran School. These scholarships have provided our children the opportunity to attend the school that is right for them. While every child is unique and learns in a different manner, we have found that the small class sizes and one-on-one attention afforded our children at Lakewood Lutheran has created an environment where they are flourishing academically and socially.

Other children may require the wider social network created by larger classes, or need the steadiness of a structured curriculum that is the same for all students. However, our two children are better served by the close-knit community of Lakewood Lutheran with a curriculum that is customized to each student's individual talents and abilities.

The scholarships have allowed us, as parents, to explore all the available education opportunities for our children, without being restricted by financial considerations. Without the EdChoice Expansion Scholarships, our family would not have been able to afford to have our children attend Lakewood Lutheran School and receive the education program that is best for them.

I am so grateful to the State of Ohio for allowing us this choice. My hope is that all parents could be provided the same opportunity to review all the education options available and select the education program that is best for their children. I believe that passage of House Bill 200 will make that possible for many more families throughout the State of Ohio.

Thank you for your time. Please feel free to contact me if you need additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matthew Keane". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line above it.

Matthew Keane  
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