



The Miami Valley School Athletics

5151 Denise Dr. Dayton, Ohio 45429

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Chairmen Brenner, Vice Chair Slaby, Ranking Member Fedor and members of the House Education Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of House Bill 442.

My name is Mario Carrillo from The Miami Valley School in Dayton, Ohio and I am The Athletic Director.

My personal experiences with having students attend our school on a F-1 Visa is that they are unable to participate in ANY of our Ohio High School Athletic Association sanctioned sports that we offer at The Miami Valley School.

- We currently have 17 International Students (grades 9 -12).
- This is 10% of our upper school student body.
- Every International Student has a F-1 visa at The Miami Valley School.

Athletics at our school provides an opportunity for the student-athletes to learn and experience abilities and skills such as collaboration, commitment, teamwork, camaraderie, responsibility, discipline, accountability and physical activity just to name a few of the benefits. Athletics is a wonderful social and emotional place to learn and experience many of these areas.

By telling our International Students that they cannot participate in sports at our school takes away from them these opportunities. It is very difficult as a Teacher/Coach/Athletic Director to tell a young person “Unfortunately, since you do not have a J-1 Visa and only an F-1 Visa you are not allowed to play sports at our school” When you see the confusion and the



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disappointment from these students hearing these words makes for a difficult conversation. Sports is one of the great ways for them to assimilate in our community and not being able to compete hurts that situation.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of House Bill 442. I would be happy to answer any questions that you may have.