



Ohio Federation of Teachers AFT, AFL-CIO

A Union of Professionals

**House Education Committee
Written Interested Party Testimony
HB 591
Melissa Cropper, President
Ohio Federation of Teachers
December 4, 2018**

Chair Brenner, Vice Chair Slaby, Ranking Member Fedor, and members of the Senate Education Committee, my name is Melissa Cropper, and I am President of the Ohio Federation of Teachers (OFT). OFT represents teachers in rural and urban locals across the state.

The Ohio Federation of Teachers (OFT) does support changes to the state report card. We need a report card that provides parents with more accurate information about the education opportunities each school district and each school building offers.

HB 591 moves the state in the right direction. We support removing the summative grade and replacing the A-F grading system with an Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) compliant dashboard that more accurately reflects the work happening in a district. ESSA allows states to develop a report card that provides a wide range of information giving parents a fuller context of the various programs a building or district has to offer. Removing the summative grade will encourage parents to look at all the components of the grade card to find information most relevant to them rather than looking only at a summative grade that does not provide full context.

We appreciate Rep. Duffy's open process that allowed parents, teachers and school personnel to participate. The State Board of Education has looked at this bill, and we are following that process as well.

We look forward to having continued input in the process and developing a state report card that accurately reflects the education vision developed by educators, parents, and other stakeholders in conjunction with the Ohio Department of Education.