



# Dave Yost • Auditor of State

November 1, 2017

Chairman Louis Blessing III  
Chair - Ohio House Government Accountability and Oversight Committee  
77 S. High St., 13<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Columbus, OH 43215

Dear Chairman Blessing,

I write today to offer support for House Bill 87, which seeks to ensure that all public money is returned to its rightful school district in cases of fraud, waste and abuse.

When my office finds that public money has been misspent or misused, we issue a Finding for Recovery (FFR). The Attorney General's office is authorized to collect the public money, due within 120 days. When a public charter school has misreported its attendance records, they are required to pay those tax dollars related to State Foundation funding for the students in question back to the Ohio Department of Education (ODE). House Bill 87 specifies that the FFR money of the attending community school goes back to the student's local residential school district. This is money that has been improperly received or spent and should be sent back to the local school district.

However, not every FFR comes as a result of an attendance issue. FFRs can be issued for a number of items, most commonly overpayments and improper reimbursements. During my time as Auditor of State, my office has issued hundreds of thousands of dollars in FFRs that were made payable back to public community schools. It is for that reason that I would urge this committee to remove section (B) in House Bill 87.

I support House Bill 87 and commend Representative Roegner for her leadership on this issue. I would be happy to discuss this issue with you or any members of the committee at your convenience.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Dave Yost".

**Dave Yost**  
Ohio Auditor of State