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The Hon. Louis Blessing, III
Chair, House Committee on Government Accountability and Oversight Ohio House of
Representatives
Riffe Center Columbus, Ohio 43215

Chairman Blessing:

On behalf of Dayton Public Schools, I am writing to offer my district's strong support of HB 87 as sponsored by Rep. Roegner. HB 87 addresses the issue of what to do with any funds returned to the state as a result of audit findings. The audit findings may be issued as a result of evidence of fraudulent or inappropriate expenditures by a charter school. It would require that the Ohio Department of Education take appropriate steps to return such funds to the local school district(s) from which the funds were originally transferred.

As a district that has been greatly impacted by funds diverted to charter schools, we strongly support this legislation. Under the current funding mechanism for charter schools, a significant portion of the charter school funding is deducted from the state and local revenues generated by the school district. Therefore, we believe that the HB 87 recommendations are both fair and proper.

Such audit findings are all too common and speak to the need for ever stronger monitoring and reporting of charter school operations. For these reasons, we support HB 87 and urge its approval by your committee.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Rhonda A. Corr, Ed.S. Superintendent

Dayton Public Schools

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