

Chair Blessing III, Vice Chair Reineke, Ranking Minority Member Clyde, and the members of the House Government Accountability and Oversight Committee:

My name is Susan Ballard and I am submitting this testimony in support of House Bill 160.

I have lived in Ohio all my life. I am a proud lesbian who has been with my spouse for 33 years. I got my undergraduate degree in elementary education and was excited when I got a job. After 1 year of teaching, I made the very difficult decision to leave that profession because of the stress of worrying about losing my job if the school administration found out about my sexual orientation. This bill will prevent future teachers from having to leave a profession they love. A profession that needs more good teachers.

I urge you to pass House Bill 160.