



To: The Honorable Don Jones, Chairman, House Primary and Secondary Education Committee

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RE: Support for HB 322

We are writing to express support for HB 322, a bill to reduce the length of Ohio's Teacher Residency program to two years (from the current four years) and to eliminate measures of progression. The need to make this change has long been a position held by the members of our organizations.

HB 322 preserves the current requirement that resident educators be provided mentoring by more experienced teachers for the two years of the program, as well as counseling to ensure participants receive needed professional development. Feedback from district leaders would indicate that these provisions have worked well to prepare new teachers for becoming licensed as professional educators.

We urge the committee to support HB 322. Please feel free to contact us with questions.