



**Representative Lisa Sobecki  
House District 45**

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**House Bill (H.B.) 626: Testimony  
December 2nd, 2020**

Chair Jones, Vice Chair Manchester, Ranking Member Robinson, and fellow members of the House Primary and Secondary Education Committee: Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony today in support of House Bill 626 with my joint sponsor, Representative Joe Miller. House Bill 626 allows for our Public School Districts to serve the transportation needs to their students first.

First, it requires Community Schools, commonly called Charter Schools, and Chartered Non Public Schools, your private or religious schools, to provide the appropriate Public School District who will be transporting students to the private school as required by law<sup>1</sup> the following information by July 1<sup>st</sup>. They are required to provide: The school's Start and End times, the school's Calendar for the upcoming year, and the address of each student who will receive transportation from the Public School District. As a former school board member of seven years, I can tell you that this information is often not provided to the public school district in a timely fashion and results in a delay in service for students.

Secondly, the bill allows Public School Districts the flexibility to plan the transportation schedule for their own needs first, then the private or charter schools. Planning bus routes can be a logistical nightmare and this flexibility would help ease the burden. Additionally, this change protects local taxpayers because it allows School Districts to first prioritize service for their students, thus ensuring that the local taxpayer gets the best return on their investment.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. I will now turn the floor over to Rep. Miller and I would be happy to answer any questions you may have following the conclusion of his remarks.

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<sup>1</sup> ORC 3327..01