

**Sept. 16, 2020 at 1 pm**  
**Senate Education Committee**  
**Interested Party/written Testimony/SB 350**

Chairman Lehner, Ranking Member Fedor and Committee Members. My name is Elizabeth and I'm writing this statement in regards to the lack of transportation provided by Akron Public Schools.

I have 5 children in my household with the oldest being my Kindergartener, he is 5. The youngest is a premature baby; who was born at 33 weeks and spent 2 weeks in the NICU. He is now a month old.

In order for me to get my Kindergartener to school I have to wake up at 6am and wake up all my kids (5, 4, 18mos, 4mos, & 1mo.) and get them ready and out of the house by 7. With the winter coming and amidst the COVID Pandemic this is unreasonable when APS is able to provide reasonable transportation.

If he had a bus to catch, I wouldn't have to get up and get all 5 kids ready and drag them out in the cold so early in the morning and risk getting all the baby's sick. ESP my preemie. I was assuming that he would be able to catch the bus at or near our home at the time of enrollment. It was a shock, and a very frustrating time for me, when they said they were not providing busses. I had to try to figure out how to get him to school everyday, without having to bring all the kids, which I wasn't able to work out. A bus would be a much better way of transportation for my family for the many reasons stated above and much more.

Thank you.