



**Senate Education Committee
Proponent testimony HB 111
Presented by Darold Johnson
Ohio Federation of Teachers Director of Legislation,
December 8, 2020**

Chair Lehner, Ranking member Fedor, and members of the Committee, my name is Darold Johnson, Legislative Director of the Ohio Federation of Teachers (OFT). OFT represents teachers, paraprofessionals, school nurses, higher education staff and faculty, and public employees. We appreciate the opportunity to share our thoughts on HB 111.

HB 111 passed the House with over eighty (80) votes. It is simple in its desire to address a pressing problem affecting students' education when they move from one school setting to another.

When a student returns to a traditional public school and does not have the records of the courses they took in a private school or another school setting, it is difficult for the new school to determine where the child is academically and what courses they took count towards graduation. HB 111 says that a child's academic record must be transferred to a school within five days. There is currently no statute providing a timeline for sharing this information.

The bill requires that public and chartered nonpublic schools transmit a transferred student's records upon the district's request or school that the student is currently attending. A school district or school must transmit the academic documents within five school days after receiving the request. If the district or school does not have a record of the student's attendance, it must provide a statement of that fact to the requestor. The bill includes community schools, STEM schools, college-preparatory boarding schools, and chartered nonpublic schools.

OFT request that the Senate Education Committee pass this bill.