



Catholic Conference of Ohio

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Written Testimony/Proponent

SB 26

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Introduction

Good morning Chairman Terhar, Vice Chair Roegner, Ranking Member Williams and members of the Senate Ways and Means Committee.

My name is Larry Keough. I am the associate for education at the Catholic Conference of Ohio and legislative advocate for Catholic schools.

We thank Sen. Kunze for sponsoring SB 26 and support this legislation.

This bill is in keeping with Ohio's tradition for teachers, regardless whether they are employed in public or nonpublic schools, to receive state certification/licensure, benefit from mentoring programs and continually obtain professional development.

This approach has bolstered the teaching profession and in doing so, is beneficial for the 1.7 million K-12 students in Ohio.

Although Catholic schools are chartered nonpublic schools, they

serve a public purpose, along with other chartered nonpublic schools, traditional public schools and community schools.

To that end, SB 26 permits any teacher who holds an Ohio-issued certificate or permit and is eligible for a federal deduction to also deduct up to \$250 of unreimbursed expenses incurred each year for professional development and classroom supplies.

We urge this committee to favorably support this bill.

Thank you.