

**House Education Primary and Secondary Education Committee**

**HB 67 – Proponent Written Testimony**

**February 16, 2021**

**Chad I. Stebbins Secondary ELA Teacher National Trail Local Schools**

Chair Manning, Ranking Member Robinson and members of the House Primary and Secondary Education Committee,

Thank you for this opportunity to provide proponent testimony in support of HB 67.

As you all are aware, this has been a very trying year in a multitude of aspects: education, personal well-being, mental health, physical health, interpersonal communication, and beyond. This year has pushed all Ohioians, ne, all humans, to find new methods of normality and life in general. We have stressed over our health, our loved ones, who we could not visit, and as teachers, our students and their families. This year has been so incredibly trying and we have been tested in ways we never could have imaginined.

For the 2020-2021 Academic year, testing at any level, local, state, or federal, is entirely unnecessary. Not only have students lost time in the classroom, they have lost time as children and young adults. The loss of instructional time alone this year is reason enough to know that our students should not be tested as testing alone results in loss of instructional time; my tenth-grade students alone would lose upwards of 10 additional hours of instructional time to take tests this spring. This year, time in the classroom has been at a premium, and some districts are just now in transition to in-person learning, given the governors requirement to attain vaccinations for teachers.

In a year that has already been challenging beyond the norm, requiring students to tackle an additional challenge that will have zero bearing on any classroom achievement, it is not necessary. Many students would be forced to come to school to simply take a test just because “they need to take a test.”

What data will testing this spring provide for teachers to utilize to inform instruction? Given a typical year, teachers do not receive detailed data from the previous test until well after the next school year has begun. As educators, we are already assessing our students on a daily basis and can provide the state with all of the data they desire to show where our students are in their learning, what educators need to do to modify instruction, and how educators are doing based on student assessment.

Testing for the sake of testing will not benefit anyone other than testing corporations. In a year that has tested us all, please allow Ohio’s students a moment of rest.

I implore the committee to promptly and expeditiously act in support of HB 67. Ohio’s students and teachers are counting on you.

Chair Manning, Ranking Member Robinson and members of the House Primary and Secondary Education Committee, thank you for your consideration. I am available to respond to any questions you may have.

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NEXT STEPS

- Send testimony:
  - to: [davisr@ohea.org](mailto:davisr@ohea.org) to check over
  - Send to [Primary&SecondaryEducationCommittee@ohiohouse.gov](mailto:Primary&SecondaryEducationCommittee@ohiohouse.gov) to send off.
- Invite friends, colleagues, families, etc. to watch your testimony (if applicable) on the [Ohio Channel](#) (make a Facebook event, call, text) and/or to also submit testimony
- Share about it and encourage your friends/family to share – use the hashtags #OvertestedOH and #RedForEd