

Committees:

Higher Education, *Ranking Member*
Primary & Secondary Education
Economic & Workforce Development



Office: (614) 466-1645
Rep32@OhioHouse.gov
77 S. High St. 10th Fl
Columbus, OH 43215

CATHERINE D. INGRAM

State Representative
32nd House District

Sponsor Testimony - House Primary & Secondary Education Committee – Nov. 15, 2022

Chairwoman Manning, Vice Chair Bird, Ranking Member Robinson, and members of the House Primary and Secondary Education Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide sponsor testimony on House Bill 115.

House Bill 115 eliminates the right of first refusal that state law currently provides to community schools, college-preparatory boarding schools, and STEM schools before public school districts put property up for sale at auction or private sale.

Under Ohio law, when a board of education decides to sell property belonging to the school district, it must first offer the property to one of the aforementioned entities for 60 days before putting the property up for auction.

This unnecessary delay and hindrance to Ohio's school districts is an example of bureaucratic red-tape that can and should be eliminated in order to allow boards of education the ability to best serve the interest of the communities and students they serve.

This legislation does not prevent community schools, college preparatory boarding schools, and STEM schools from attempting to purchase school district property. It instead allows them to participate in the public auction process similar to any other interested entity, and frees up school districts from the hassle and nuisance of delaying property sales for 60 days.

Chairwoman Manning, Vice Chair Bird, Ranking Member Robinson, and members of the primary and secondary committee, I thank you for your time, and will be happy to answer any questions