



House Transportation and Public Safety Committee
House Bill 465 Written Proponent Testimony
Ohio School Boards Association
Buckeye Association of School Administrators
Ohio Association of School Business Officials
March 8, 2022

Chair Baldrige, Vice Chair McClain, Ranking Member Sheehy, and Members of the House Transportation and Public Safety Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide written proponent testimony on House Bill (HB) 465. Collectively, our organizations represent public school board members, superintendents, treasurers/CFOs and other school business officials from around the state. On behalf of our members, we support the provisions of HB 465.

HB 465 would increase collaboration and communication between the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) and schools and communities across Ohio who are impacted by changes to highways, streets, and roadways.

Specifically, HB 465 would require ODOT to notify all schools impacted by changes to highways, streets, or roadways. It would also include any changes to streets and roadways as items for which ODOT must notify the public and provide public involvement prior to making changes. Currently, such notification and involvement are only required when creating or modifying a state highway. Finally, HB 465 would require the director of ODOT or any individual conducting a state traffic study to consider a project's impact on traffic in a school zone and evaluate the traffic changes in the school zone with consideration of student safety and school traffic.

Ensuring a safe learning and working environment for our students and staff is a shared responsibility among local and state leaders and must be done with community collaboration and input. HB 465 achieves this goal and strengthens Ohio's laws on school safety. We thank Representatives Sheehy and Bird for sponsoring this legislation and ensuring our school zones remain safe places. We urge you to support HB 465.

Thank you for your consideration. Please contact us if you have questions.

- Kevin Miller, Buckeye Association of School Administrators
- Katie Johnson, Ohio Association of School Business Officials
- Will Schwartz, Ohio School Boards Association