



**Dr. Romules L. Durant**  
Superintendent/CEO  
Toledo Public Schools  
1609 N. Summit St • Toledo, OH 43604  
Office: 419.671.0500

November 14, 2022

Senator Roegner - Committee Chair  
Senator McColley - Vice Chair  
Senator Hearcel F. Craig - Ranking Member

Dear Honorable Representatives:

On behalf of the Board of Education for Toledo Public Schools and the 23,000 students who attend one of our schools, please allow this letter to show our continued support of House Bill 542 - as it is currently presented - and its intent to lower the age for a student who is interested in attending/enrolling in a barber school to 16.

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, barbering is one of the oldest and most well respected professions in history and the demand for trained and talented barbers or technicians is expected to continue growing far into the future.

Students enrolled in the district's Barber Academy, or another reputable school, are entering a field that is in high demand. Those who graduate and go on to become a barber have the opportunity to earn a good salary and build a strong career for the future. If he or she enjoys working with people and is committed to offering a quality hair cut or design, they will gain a strong reputation and clientele base.

Toledo Public Schools' mission is to produce competitive college and career ready graduates. By lowering the age of a student who is eligible to enter barber school or training, they are gaining a chance at building a strong future, one that they can begin upon graduation.

We appreciate Representative Lisa Sobeki for championing this legislature and for continuing her work to support our community and the students who attend Toledo Public Schools.

Please feel free to contact me directly with any questions or if you need additional information about Toledo Public Schools and our Barber Academy.

In education,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dr. Romules Durant". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Dr. Romules Durant  
CEO/Superintendent  
Toledo Public Schools

**Educating today's students for tomorrow's global economy**

*Equal Opportunity Employer*