

My name is Sheri Barlay, living at 161 S Harding Rd, Columbus, Ohio 43209

Chair Brenner, Vice Chair Blessing, Ranking Member Fedor, and members of the Senate Primary and Secondary Education Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide interested party testimony regarding H.B.110. My name is Sheri Barlay and I am a Catholic school parent from St Charles School.

I am testifying today in support of the EdChoice scholarship program. This program has been incredibly important to my family, and has allowed my child to receive a high quality education that they might not have otherwise been able to receive. Living in the East Side of Columbus, we have limited public educational opportunities. The local high school Walnut Ridge does not offer a safe or academically challenging environment. It consistently under performs; all the while our ever rising property taxes are distributed to these local public school. The Charter schools are even less stable. Attending St. Charles Catholic High School has been the right choice for my child, and I hope that parents can continue to choose the best educational option for their children. Ohio's state scholarships are just one way for parents to exercise their choice of the best educational option for their child.

I am thankful for the continued support of the Senate for the EdChoice, Jon Peterson, and Autism Scholarship. I ask that you consider increasing these scholarship amounts for both the elementaries and high schools, which have not been increased in six years. This increase will help families choose the best option for their student's education and well-being.