



**House Finance Committee
House Bill 110 Interested Party Written Testimony
Ohio Association of Secondary School Administrators
March 29, 2023**

Chair Edwards, Vice Chair LeRe, Ranking Member Sweeney, and members of the House Finance Committee. Thank you for the opportunity to provide written Interested Party testimony on House Bill (HB) 33, the proposed biennial budget bill. My name is Timothy Freeman, and I am the Executive Director for the Ohio Association of Secondary School Administrators (OASSA). Our organization represents public school district high school principals and other middle school and secondary school administrators from around the state.

On behalf of our members, today's testimony is centered around an education policy issue proposed in HB 33:

- A change to graduation requirements to include student completion of a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FASFA) form before receiving a diploma.

HB 33 would add as a condition for a student to receive a high school diploma, the completion of a FASFA form. While the bill allows for an opt-out by the student/parent, our members have raised concerns about the required submission of a family's financial information as a condition of a student graduating. Further, the provision creates a new burden for high school counselors would be to monitor every student's completion of the form or verify that a parent has signed an opt-out form.

We support the notion that students be encouraged to complete the FASFA form, and that schools assist students when needed. However, this new requirement appears to be an over-reach and at the very least should be debated in separate legislation.

We urge you to remove from the bill the requirement that the completion of a FASFA form be a condition of graduation.

This concludes my testimony. Please feel free to contact me with questions.

Respectfully submitted,
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You may also contact OASSA's Advocacy Specialist:
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