

**Opponent or Testimony for HOUSE BILL 8**  
**House Primary and Secondary Education Committee**  
**5/7/23**

**JOCELYN HARPER, K-12 EDUCATOR**

Chairman Swearingen, Representative Carruthers, and members of the House Primary and Secondary Education Committee,

Thank you for allowing me to testify today. My name is JOCELYN HARPER. I am an educator in the state of Ohio with 10 years of experience and I wish to express concern regarding House Bill 8 and the potential negative impact it may have on students in Ohio's schools.

As a K-12 educator, I connect with hundreds of students each day. I work tirelessly to gain their trust. House Bill 8 forces educators to break that trust and potentially places students in harm's way by revealing information to the student's parent or family that they may not be ready to share yet (particularly true in cases of students whose families are not supportive.

This also impacts teachers by placing them in the impossible position of choosing between protecting students or maintaining their jobs. No one should have to choose between those 2 options.

Again, the purpose of my testimony is to advocate for the protect of students and a respect for their privacy. I'm asking the committee to reconsider this harmful legislation.

Thank you for your time,

Jocelyn Harper