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## Please support HB 171!

**December 10, 2023, via email**

Dear members of the House Primary and Secondary Education Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to share my support of HB 171. As an educator - a teacher, school leader, instructional coach, and now consultant working across many Ohio communities - I am grateful that Ohio leaders like you are considering this meaningful change to our model curriculum. I want to share three reasons why this change matters to our state - three reasons why I hope **you'll support HB 171** and be a champion for this bill.

- Research tells us that when students see themselves in the curriculum, their interest and engagement increases. So when we have a model curriculum that highlights more of our community members, more students (and their families!) will feel the positive momentum of “their story” as part of our amazing Ohio story - and more students will feel that sense of belonging in our schools, with the accompanying positive impact on engagement. What an awesome thing for our state’s young citizens!
- Studying a broad range of diverse cultures and experiences prepares our students with 21st skills AND for the more diverse world in which they’ll work. They will bring new knowledge, new understandings into the work force, and this is *exactly* what we need in Ohio’s future workforce. You can learn more about the core competencies via McKinsey’s research here:  
<https://www.mckinsey.com/industries/public-sector/our-insights/defining-the-skills-citizens-will-need-in-the-future-world-of-work>
- Finally, Ohio teachers support HB 171! These stakeholders are so important to me, and I bet their voices matter to you, too. Shaping our model curriculum by building on the hard work and smarts of our educators helps Ohio create strong schools - I’ve read what the Ohio Council for the Social Studies has said about HB 171, and I stand with them. I hope you’re talking to teachers in your district, and across the state, to hear their thoughts and ideas. Educators have a tough job, and when they tell us they are behind this new model curriculum for Ohio, I want us all to listen. (OCSS statement:  
[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1\\_oto8FXdySoUNG4tZI2Rl5sIwVx\\_EciutEMWSl6-e8k/edit](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1_oto8FXdySoUNG4tZI2Rl5sIwVx_EciutEMWSl6-e8k/edit))

I hope you’re as enthusiastic as I am: HB 171 an incredible opportunity for collaboration that benefits our Ohio students; your support in committee will help move it forward - what a wonderful way to end 2023!

Please reach out with any questions or follow-ups and thank you for your work for Ohio and all of our students and families.



Lisa Vahey