

Testimony for HB 171
Submitted by: Amanda Lee
Organization: N/A
Testifying as Proponent

Chair Bird, Vice Chair Fowler Arthur, Ranking Member Robinson and members of the House Primary and Secondary Education Committee,

My name is **Amanda Lee**, I live in **Gahanna**. I am a **concerned citizen/educator**, and I am asking this committee to support HB 171 which updates the Social Studies model curriculum to better reflect the histories of all Ohioans by including the migration histories, societal contributions and experiences of a range of communities in Ohio and the United States who are not currently represented in our classrooms.

I believe that passing this bill is good for Ohio and Ohio students because it is important to make students feel connected to what they are learning and expand student's world views. We talk a lot in the classroom and in society about our duty as US citizens to use our voice and vote. But to do that, it is important to be educated about future issues, but also the past. I believe that by expanding the scope of the social studies curriculum, it will help more students feel engaged and cared for. I am currently a college student, and apart from my studies I also tutor and substitute teach. One of the biggest issues we face as educators is gaining classroom attention. One of the best ways to combat this is to connect the students to the classroom. Increasing the scope of what we teach, increases engagement and makes the students feel that there is a community that cares. Not only this, but it helps students better understand their peers. In a time where community and compassion is extremely important, it is important to help students feel connected to the classroom and better understand their peers.

I respectfully urge the House Primary and Secondary Education Committee to consider my testimony and to vote yes in support of H.B. 171. Thank you for your time and the opportunity to testify in support of this legislation.