

**Testimony for HB 171**  
**Submitted by: Lisa Forsythe**  
**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 Lisa Forsythe, I live in Worthington City. I am both a parent and an 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 vital that our children have a curriculum that teaches about the people who make up our country and communities. This will teach our children to live in the diverse world that makes up our community and emphasize understanding and empathy. It will also allow those with diverse backgrounds to feel valued and that their stories matter and have contributed to our community too.

We need a curriculum that is relevant today and that our students can see themselves in and are part of. They need to be able to connect and relate to the classroom curriculum. Teachers need to be equipped with the tools to do this.

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.

Thank you,

Lisa Forsythe