

## Testimony in Favor of HB 339

Chairman Bird, Vice Chair Fowler Arthur, Ranking Member Robinson and distinguished members of the House Primary and Secondary Education Committee, thank you for the opportunity to advocate for House Bill 339.

My name is Robert Webster. I attended a non-chartered, non-public school from kindergarten until my high school graduation. The non-chartered school that I attended helped prepare me for the vocation and community service which I now enjoy.

I was prepared, first, with an excellent education. Following graduation and the receiving of my diploma, I attended Scarlet Oaks for Fire/basic 1 and received valedictorian honors. I then went to Butler Tech for paramedic/fire 2 and was able to earn salutatorian honors. I had been prepared to read, to study, to think, and to apply the information put before me. Upon completion of vocational school, I was able to receive the Goshen, Ohio Rookie Fireman of the year in 2022. I am currently employed full time at the Hamilton Township Fire and EMS Station. It was a recent honor to be named Fireman of the Year for 2023.

In addition to an excellent education received at my non-public non-chartered school, I was also taught the importance of serving others and being a servant leader- not only to my family but also to my community. During these formative years, I was shown the benefits of hard work, diligence, and character in the workplace and in living life beyond yourself. I saw that a life of service not only benefits the lives of those around you; but, in turn, brings fulfillment to your own life.

Four weeks ago, my wife gave birth to our first daughter. We are excited for the future that lies before her, and we both desire for her to be educated in the same school, under the same teaching, and instilling the same character that helped prepared us for the life that we both so greatly enjoy.

Thank you for your consideration.

Robert Webster  
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