

Testimony in Favor of HB 339

Travis Burke, Blanchester, OH

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 Travis Burke. In 1980 I was enrolled as kindergarten student into a non-chartered, non-public school. I continued in a NCNP school until my high school graduation in 1993. I am so thankful for the education I received in my childhood and adolescence. My parents greatly sacrificed in paying tuition for myself and my two sisters to attend our schools. My father passed away in 2022 knowing that his sacrifices helped prepare his children for the lives they lived. My mother, having received her masters' degree in education from the Wright State University in Dayton, Ohio, spent 40 years teaching in a non-chartered, non-public school.

My wife and I were blessed with three children of our own. All three of our children have attended a NCNP school, with two having graduated and one presently a sophomore. The passage of HB339 would justly benefit not only us taxpayers but the hundreds of other families who feel this is the best avenue for their child's education.

I am thankful to be a citizen of this great state. I am thankful for the opportunity to serve my community. I urge you to extend the education savings program to parents like myself. I speak on behalf of hundreds of other families, who just seek the opportunity and freedom to see that our children receive an education that we feel best prepares them to be a productive citizen of our great state.

Thank you for your consideration.

Travis Burke

Blanchester, Ohio 45107