

HB 339 Proponent Testimony

February 13th

Kellie Wirmel

Greetings Chair Bird, Vice-Chair Fowler-Arthur, Ranking Member Robinson, and members of the House Primary and Secondary Education Committee, my name is Kellie Wirmel. I am a graduate of a non-public non-charter school in Milford, Ohio and am a resident of Lebanon, Ohio.

As the current secretary of a NPNC school in West Carrollton, Ohio, I have witnessed many students transfer to and from our small school. Many of those students/families found exactly what they needed within our walls and have flourished! Others have moved on to find a better fit for their individual needs and have flourished in other institutions.

There is no "one size fits all" when it comes to the educational needs of each individual student. Hence, there are numerous types and "flavors" of educational institutions in the State of Ohio. Of the total number of those institutions of learning, NPNC schools would definitely be considered a minority. In a time where we try to encourage and focus on helping minorities, I believe HB 339, as it is written, is precisely how the State of Ohio can do better at helping those in the minority; those who would greatly benefit from attending a NPNC school.

Unfortunately, because we NPNC schools do not have the hundreds of thousands of taxpayer dollars at our disposal, tuition is a must. And even though we have among the lowest tuition in our area, many of our school families have had to leave our school to seek **not** what would be best fit for their student(s), but what would be most economical for their families.

All we ask, as NPNC schools is that we are given a better chance to help those in the minority to get the education that best fits their specific needs. We urge you to pass HB 339.

Thank you,

Mrs. Kellie Wirmel, Secretary
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