HB 445 Proponent Testimony Kevin Hull

Chair Manning, Vice Chair Fowler Arthur, Ranking Member Robinson and members of the House Primary and Secondary Education Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on House Bill 445. My name is Kevin Hull and I am from Licking County

Please add my name to the list of those advocating for the passage of House Bill 445. I do not believe you need me to list all the reasons for passage. Your time is valuable, and the demands of your work are numerous. Thank you for your service. I trust you are also being made well aware of the concerns from any who oppose passage. I simply wish to add one number to the "pass the bill" side.

I firmly believe those in our state who advocate passage vastly outnumber those who would oppose. I am also of the mind you have been hearing from the minority arguing against exposure to faith time and time again. I and others have been too silent for far too long.

At the very least parents and families need this opportunity to choose. I've worked in my same job for 35 years now. I am a volunteer coach in a local public high school. I've witnessed the same tension in culture that you have. I've seen families struggle as you have. I believe this release-time religious instruction is a wonderful opportunity for many children who may not be exposed otherwise. Some parents and students will be opposed, and we would not seek to force anyone. Just please give parents the option.

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to advocate for House Bill 445.

Sincerely,

Kevin Hull