## HB 445 Proponent Testimony Suzanna Rowell

Dear 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 Suzanne Rowell and I am from Wood County.

I believe that our Ohio parents should have the opportunity to choose released time religious instruction for their kids. LifeWise Academy provides RTRI for our schools and has done so in many communities for several years.

I have been involved in the LifeWise Classroom as a volunteer for three years now and I have seen first had the positive effects on the students, knowing what the Bible says and the Biblical character traits that is taught in the classroom. I have heard firsthand from our students parents, thankful for the program and the effects on their family. Also, from the local school staff and teachers, all positive responses regarding the additional learning opportunity.

After being introduced to the school, at the elementary level, the parents want it for their middle schoolers as well.

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

Sincerely, Suzanne Rowell