

Opposition to HB 445
OHR Primary and Secondary Education Committee
November 11, 2024
Nikki Sparks
3877 Burnt Pond Road
Ostrander, Ohio 43061

Gayle Manning and Committee members,

My name is Nikki Sparks. I am a retired Columbus City Schools music teacher. I strongly oppose HB 445. Teaching the arts, it was always difficult for our schools to incorporate our subject into the day, with the already busy schedule for students. Taking time for religious study taxes an already packed day.

Also, this is a direct conflict with the separation of church and state. These are public schools. Anyone wishing to add religious education to their child's day, can certainly send their students to a religious school. It is not fair to take education time from all students because of one person's belief. To force all districts to adopt this policy is wrong.

Thank-you for your time. I urge you to oppose HB 445, and keep the separation of church and state, and not incorporate forced religion into the school day that is already packed.

Sincerely,
Nikki Sparks