

November 11, 2024  
Opposition Testimony for House Bill 445  
Regards school policies for release for religious instruction

Chair Manning,

My name is Rena Lundstrom. I am a grandmother to a student in the Westerville City School District, a suburb of Columbus. I oppose House Bill 445.

HB 445 should not be passed. School is where children go to be educated. They also learn how to socialize, how to pay attention, and concentrate.

What if/when multiple religious groups ask for released time in a school? What if 25-50% of students are transported back and forth during a school day.

Teaching is already a demanding career.

Transportation is always a safety issue. How would the inclusion or exclusion of differing religious groups be decided?

Please do not approve this bill.

Respectfully,

Rena Lundstrom