

House Committees  
State & Local Government, Ranking Member  
Primary and Secondary Education  
Public Utilities Committee  
Ways & Means Committee  
Pensions Committee



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## **Representative Sean Patrick Brennan 14<sup>th</sup> House District**

Chair Manning, Vice Chair Fowler Arthur, Ranking Member Robinson, and fellow members of the Ohio House Primary and Secondary Education Committee. Thank you for allowing us to present sponsor testimony on House Bill 591: The Charter School Sponsor and Operator Rating Act.

This bill will require more of an apples-to-apples comparison of community school sponsors and operators. There are many advantages to what we are proposing.

First, an annual report card provides stakeholders—parents, students, taxpayers, and policymakers—with clear and accessible information about the performance and operations of community school, their sponsors, and their operators. This ensures that everyone involved understands how well the entities are meeting educational standards.

Secondly, by tracking and publishing metrics like academic performance, financial management, and student growth, an annual report card holds community schools, their sponsors, and operators accountable for their outcomes. This can motivate them to maintain high standards and improve where necessary.

Further, parents and guardians can use report cards to make informed choices about where to send their children. Policymakers and educational leaders can use the data to allocate resources effectively, identify trends, and address systemic challenges.

Report cards highlight areas of success and areas in need of improvement. Schools can benchmark their performance against others and use the data to implement targeted improvements in teaching methods, curricula, or resource allocation.

Regularly publishing performance metrics builds public confidence in the education system. Taxpayers are more likely to support funding when they see evidence that schools are being transparent and accountable.

Ohio already requires robust annual report cards for traditional public schools, although I agree it is flawed and is in need of an overhaul, but that will hopefully be addresses in other legislation.

Extending this requirement to community school sponsors and operators ensures consistency and that all schools contribute to the state's overall educational objectives.

Requiring these report cards fosters a culture of continuous improvement, enhances equity, and ensures that community schools, their sponsors, and their operators deliver quality education to all students.

It is an honor to join my colleague, Representative Baker, on this important piece of legislation that will assist parents and guardians in determining the best choice for their child's education, as well as provide helpful information to taxpayers regarding how their investments are paying off for our children. She will explain the detailed requirements of the bill.

Thank you Chair Manning and members of the committee for your time and consideration.

