

May 1, 2023

**Senate Education Committee**

Ohio Statehouse  
1 Capital Square  
Columbus, OH 43215

**Chair Brenner, Vice Chair O'Brien, Ranking Member Ingram, and other distinguished members of the Senate:**

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony on House Bill 33 requesting the Senate Education Committee support \$3 million in funding in the FY 24 -25 Ohio operating budget to expand workforce development, financial literacy, and entrepreneurship programming to Ohio students.

My name is Max Lombard and I would like to share how Junior Achievement has changed my life.

Through Junior Achievement, I had the opportunity to participate in a variety of programs and activities that introduced me to the world of business. I learned about topics such as marketing, finance, and leadership, and I had the chance to work on real-life projects that gave me a taste of what it's like to be in the business world.

What I found most inspiring about Junior Achievement was the way it encouraged creativity, innovation, and problem-solving. I was challenged to think outside the box and come up with new ideas that could potentially change the world. This experience not only gave me a newfound appreciation for the business world but also ignited a passion in me to pursue a career in this field.

I am grateful for the opportunities that Junior Achievement has given me over the last two years. It has been incredibly fulfilling to witness the positive impact that 8 high school students can have on their community. I hope to use this passion of spreading positivity in the future when I can venture into more business opportunities.

Thanks to Junior Achievement, I was able to gain the skills, knowledge, and confidence necessary to pursue my dreams. Today, I am proud to say that I will be going to Miami University to pursue a business career, and I owe much of my success to the inspiration I received from this incredible program.

Sincerely,  
Max Lombard

*Max Lombard*

*CEO, OPEER (JA Company Program)  
High School Student, Jackson High School*

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