

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 Gregory Campbell II and I would like to share how much Junior Achievement has changed my life.

In my school, I am constantly hearing people hesitant about their future plans. College, career, trade school, the workforce. These are all plans that I have heard, yet many people do not actually start to craft their future until their senior year of high school. Junior Achievement (JA) has given me the opportunity to plan my future earlier, which gives me the opportunity to acquire skills that my fellow peers just simply have not established.

Being involved in the JA Company Program for two years has given me the opportunity to learn skills like networking, communication, leadership, financial management, operations management, and problem solving. In addition, Junior Achievement has allowed me to be a person that can take an idea, work through solutions, and lead an idea into fruition.

Starting a live company at seventeen- and eighteen-years-old has been an opportunity that many others do not have the chance to experience. However, with your support, you can help students like myself learn the skills necessary for career readiness at a young age, while also changing the way that students can navigate their early age education.

Sincerely,  
Gregory Campbell II

*Gregory Campbell II*

*COO, OPEER (JA Company Program)*

*High School Student, Jackson High School*

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