Chair Brenner, Vice Chair O'Brien, Ranking Member Ingram and members of the Senate Education Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on Senate Bill 293.

My name is John M. Wallace and I am from Pitsburg, Ohio in Darke, County.

As a Grandfather and Born Again Christian and supporter of the LifeWise Academy ministries, I believe it's important for parents to have choices for their children's education. For parents to have the opportunity to have released time religious instruction for their children. This is an opportunity for children to learn morality, right from wrong, for them to interact with other Christian believers.

Having this equal opportunity for all parents of all Ohio schools to get their children trained in the Bible, about the true history of the world, and the importance of moral values of Jesus Christ. If you have lived the years that I have and seen the fall of morality in this country, and the terrible effects it's had on society since religious education was removed from the schools. Then you can

understand why I believe that a training in Biblical values and moral standards that are taught by Jesus Christ in the Christian Bible will benefit children tremendously. The ultimate effect will be reduced number of people breaking laws and going to jail. These children will then grow into adults who will improve society being a positive influence in society. This improves life for everyone.

As a Christian believer, I believe in the importance of prayer.

Father in heaven, please touch the hearts of those leaders and politicians in Ohio and our country to make legal for all schools in this country, especially Ohio schools to allow children everywhere to have the opportunity to receive Christian education, to learn the all importance of reading the Christian Bible, and most of all for the children to learn why having a personal relationship with our God, our King, and our Savior, Jesus Christ, is the most importance relationship they can ever have. In Jesus name, Amen!

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to advocate for Senate Bill 293. Sincerely

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Representative - District 80 Jenna Powell Senator - District 5 Stephen Huffman