

Opposition to SB 293  
Senate Education Committee  
November 16, 2024  
Nikki Sparks  
3877 Burnt Pond Road  
Ostrander, Ohio 43061

Senate Education Committee members,

My name is Nikki Sparks. I am a retired Columbus City Schools music teacher. I strongly oppose SB 293. Teaching the arts, it was always difficult for our schools to incorporate our subject into the day, with the already busy schedule for students. Taking time for religious study taxes an already packed day.

Also, this is a direct conflict with the separation of church and state. These are public schools. Anyone wishing to add religious education to their child's day, can certainly send their students to a religious school. It is not fair to take education time from all students because of one single group's belief. To force all districts to adopt this policy is wrong.

Thank-you for your time. I urge you to oppose SB 293, and follow the separation of church and state, as mandated in our Constitution, and not incorporate forced religion into the school day that is already packed.

Sincerely,  
Nikki Sparks