

Chair Brenner, Vice Chair O'Brien, Ranking Member Ingram, and members of the Senate Education Committee,

Thank you for allowing me to testify today. My name is Leah Hackleman-Good. I received my MA from Miami University and my PhD from Bowling Green State, and I've lived in Ohio and paid state taxes for more than 35 years. I taught at the college level for many years here, and now I work for a national research organization that manages the U.S. Department of Education's What Works Clearinghouse.

I am strongly opposed to SB 293 and its House counterpart HB 445.

I value public education and an informed citizenry. Religious instruction is **not** education. Forcing local schools to accept out-of-class time religious instruction for their students is not only interfering with students' education, it's also infringing heavily on local control. The bill is dangerous for our students and our communities. Religious proselytizing has no place in public education. Parents who wish for their children to receive that can send their children to private schools!

I ask you to consider my testimony and vote NO on this unAmerican bill. Thank you again for the opportunity to testify.

Leah D. Hackleman-Good, PhD