

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

My name is Megan Wiley, and I live in the Medina City School District. I have a child who attends Medina High School as well as a child that graduated from Medina City Schools. We are active community and school participants. This is an excellent community and school system that is growing our children's education, college preparation and love for music.

I have serious concerns about SB 293 and its effects on our schools and our children's safety. I urge you to permanently remove this bill from the committee agenda.

Here are some of my concerns about SB 293:

1. As residents of Ohio and citizens of the United States, individuals have the freedom to exercise their chosen religion. But no one has the authority to impose their religious beliefs on another person's child within a public school setting.
2. Right now, SB 293 does nothing to prevent students from being drawn into religious release programs with obvious political agendas. It does nothing to protect students while they're in someone else's care — background checks, criminal background checks, licenses, etc. This presents an unsafe environment for my child. It also doesn't address if a child gets sick or has an allergy in their care and how those things will be addressed.
3. It declares that "the student assumes responsibility for any missed school work," but does not elaborate on how this impacts grades or making up other important school work.
4. What is the content of the education being offered? Will it be politically motivated content that could be harmful to students? I object strongly to anti-LGBTQ content and content supporting or opposing certain political candidates or issues.
5. It further limits instructional time for specialized/elective subjects like art, PE, music, or library/media. These are already limited and they build so much creativity and problem solving in children.
6. Public schools should be places where every student feels a sense of belonging and safety. RTRI programs have been known to involve students in recruitment or retention, which can strain relationships and create distractions in the classroom. There is already

so much distraction and bullying and pressure for teens. Maintaining focus on inclusion and safety is essential.

For these reasons, I ask that you stop this bill from progressing any further. Thank you for your time. Please let me know that you have received my testimony and keep me posted on the outcome.