

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 Barbara Foy. I have taught Art in Ohio public schools for 35 years, I do not want students taken out of my classes, this is the BEST subject in any school! I am strongly opposed to SB 293 and its House counterpart HB 445.

Why not take them after of before school and parents can either drop off early OR pick up after school? You entice the students with things and food items, that are not religious!

I have worked for years making my classes an integral part of public education. I **respect ALL religions** of students...in a public school setting.

At Christmas and other religious holidays, I never said we are making a Christmas or Easter gift! This is PUBLIC school. I would share seasonal activities. We never drew religious pictures, Santas, or Easter bunnies!

If they want religious, then go to church on Sunday, synagogue on Saturday...but no, that gets in the way of sports activities!

This is a way to accommodate lazy parents that don't want to take on the responsibility of teaching their children about their beliefs.

You are further destroying public education. For ALL people!

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

I will now take any questions you may have.

Barbara Foy