

Testimony of Bunny Summerlin

Before the Ohio House Education Committee

Representative Fowler Arther, Chair

February 24, 2025

Chair Fowler Arthur, Vice Chair Odioso, Ranking Member Robinson, and members of the House Committee

My name is Bunny Summerlin, and I am a concerned citizen submitting testimony in opposition to HB96. My grandchildren currently benefit from Ohio public schools and we want to keep them as strong institutions of learning. We do not want to weaken the public's access to FREE and APPROPRIATE PUBLIC EDUCATION guaranteed to Americans by law.

My two granddaughters attend Columbus City Schools, and I have been strong supporter of their schools and of public education for ALL kids throughout their young lives.

I am writing to object to the drastic cuts proposed in HB96 which will take crucial dollars out of our public schools. NINETY percent of Ohio students attend public schools. Cutting public school funding does nothing to improve the state of education in the great state of Ohio but rather weakens our ability to educate the next generation of leaders. If we want Ohio to continue to be a state that educates its citizens, we must not weaken our public school systems. I urge Ohio legislators to stand against this unpopular bill. Ohioans are not interested in this biased and politically motivated plan.

Let us actually strengthen the public school systems we have in the State of Ohio. I submit this testimony in opposition to this harmful bill. I urge moderate and thoughtful action to move Ohio forward - not backward.

Respectfully submitted,

Bunny Summerlin

2255 Haviland Road

Columbus, Ohio