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February 23, 2025

Ms. Sarah Fowler Arthur, Chair, Education Committee The Ohio House of Representatives, Ohio Statehouse 1 Capitol Square Columbus, OH 43215 OHReducationcommittee@ohiohouse.gov

RE: Testimony for Committee Meeting on 2/25/2025

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

Thank you for allowing my testimony. My name is Natalie Luyckx. I am a mother of two boys, one in the public schools and one soon to be. I am also a concerned citizen and I urge the committee to include the 3rd phase of the bipartisan Fair School Funding Plan in the state budget. Studies have shown a significant positive impact on society with more money spent on education. Some of those positives include higher test scores and graduation rates, higher adult wages, reduced crime rates and poverty rates. Now many of these advantages aren't seen immediately but are long term benefits. Shouldn't we be playing the long game? Shouldn't we be making society better for our kids and future generations? A better educated society leads to an improved economy and cutting funding doesn't just hurt a certain group of individuals, it hurts us all. Thank you all for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Natalie Luyckx