

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

Thank you for allowing me to testify via email today. My name is Jariah "Jarrah" Bailey. I am a mom of two kids in Loveland, Ohio. I'm here to urge the committee to include the 3rd phase of the bipartisan Fair School Funding Plan in the state budget.

Both my husband and myself are graduates of two strong public high schools in Ohio. Myself from Sycamore Community Schools and my husband from Walnut Hills high school. We both have since acquired masters degrees as a testament to our strong Ohio public schools foundation and we are committed to the future of public schools both for our own two sons and those in the community that may not have a voice to speak up, but depend on the services and sense of community that public schools offer to developing children. We could have chosen to send our two boys to private schools, but we believe that strong public schools are important so that children from all socioeconomic backgrounds have the opportunity and access for quality education. I don't consider myself a political person, but I have seen the ways that stagnant public school funding in our own community of Loveland have caused neighbors to point fingers at each other because we don't have a large business community and we have watched multiple school levies previously fail. Quality K-12 education should be a right that all students have access to and diversion of funds to Ed choice and other areas will continue to erode the quality standards and systems in place at our public schools.

I ask you to consider my testimony and choose to support the 90% of Ohio students who attend public schools. Please include the 3rd phase of the bipartisan Fair School Funding Plan in the state budget to protect our public schools. Thank you again for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Jarrah Bailey

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