

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

Thank you for allowing me to testify today. My name is Kristen Johnson. I am a parent of children (2) in the Loveland City School District and a taxpayer for Clermont County]. I'm here to urge the committee to include the 3rd phase of the bipartisan Fair School Funding Plan in the state budget.

Our school district is underfunded today and is in a district and relies on state funding and subsidized homeowner tax levies. Our state is in the bottom of rankings for funding, 45th to be specific. And we operate on a below average spend per student. Our school has amazing educators and programs to provide students with a balanced and strong education, and it is not acceptable to compromise education and remove any additional funding because by doing so, it will remove education and learning opportunities. Children are the next leaders of our country, and it is the responsibility of each of us, including government, to support our school districts. I want Ohio and Loveland to be a sought after place to live and without strong support for the education system, it puts us and our children at risk for years to come.

Please put this funding in the state budget.

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. Thank you again for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely

Kristen Johnson