

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

Thank you for allowing me to testify today. My name is Jennifer Sumerak. I am a resident of Ohio, a wife of a public schools educator and a mother to two children who attend public schools. I'm here to urge the committee to include the 3rd phase of the bipartisan Fair School Funding Plan in the state budget.

This plan will provide a predictable and FAIR formula for funding our schools with ZERO increase in state taxes. If money is funneled out of public schools (via school vouchers, etc), districts will have no choice but to raise taxes, in order to cover the devastating losses those programs will incur. The Fair School Funding will also allow for more local control, and provide stability to district budgets. This plan is also constitutional, whereas previous plans have been ruled unconstitutional 3 times in the last 28 years. Lastly, this plan has been vetted and has broad BIPARTISAN support.

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 bipartisan Fair School Funding Plan in the state budget. Thank you again for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Sumerak