

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

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony. My name is Brittany Hulbert. I am a lifelong Ohioan, a graduate of Ohio's public school system, a mother, and a concerned citizen. I am here today to urge the committee to continue implementing the bipartisan Fair School Funding Plan in Ohio's budget.

For too long, Ohio's public schools have been forced to operate without sufficient resources. Our children deserve schools that are fully and constitutionally funded. The Fair School Funding Plan was years in the making. It was built on extensive research, thoughtful revisions, and bipartisan collaboration. Lawmakers from both sides of the aisle worked together to create a solution that benefits Ohio's students. As it nears its final phase, there is no excuse for pulling back or leaving it underfunded.

A strong education system is critical to Ohio's future. A well-funded public school system helps build a skilled workforce, strengthens our economy, and makes Ohio an attractive place to raise a family. Yet Governor DeWine's proposed budget falls short. It fails to fully fund public education, does not account for inflation, neglects to adjust funding based on districts' actual needs, and weakens the funding guarantees that schools rely on to plan for the future.

I urge you to support the 90% of Ohio's students who attend public schools. Please uphold the commitment to the bipartisan Fair School Funding Plan and ensure its continued timely implementation.

Thank you again for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

*Brittany Hulbert*

Brittany Hulbert