

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

Thank you for this opportunity to share testimony on the very important issue of school funding. I submit that current voucher funding policies are subsidizing relatively advantaged families to the detriment of public schools. This is evidenced in the pay for families whose children were already in enrolled in private schools before voucher opportunities were extended to families whose incomes were up to 450% above poverty.

The Ed Choice expansion is diverting a billion dollars each year from our public schools. Thus private schools and mostly religious institutions are funded through tax payer expense.

This current system is discriminating against minority students and increasing segregation in Ohio public schools.

Ohio private schools are not subject to the Sunshine Laws and public accountability is lost.

We must have equity in the funding of Ohio's public schools which serve 90% of students.