



Proponent Testimony for H.B. 62  
Ohio House of Representatives Education Committee  
4/29/2025  
Superintendent Bill Ruane, St. Marys City Schools

Chair Fowler Arthur, Vice Chair Odioso, Ranking Member Robinson, and members of the committee, I thank you for the opportunity to provide proponent testimony on the proposed changes to the College Credit Plus (CCP) program for textbook costs.

My name is Bill Ruane, and I am the Superintendent of Saint Marys City Schools, a district that has hosted the CCP program since its establishment. College Credit Plus has proven to be an incredibly important resource for students who decide to pursue college.

However, the financial burden that the CCP program places on K-12 districts is not viable. Schools like my own are working to limit our budget to be responsible stewards of taxpayer funds. However, the additional cost that the CCP program has placed on our schools has made this mission much more difficult. In FY 24 our district spent \$13,705.63 on text books for our CCP classes. Since colleges receive funds from enrollment under CCP, it is only fair that they share the expense of textbooks. Shifting textbook costs and modifying payment requirements to participating colleges' would be an ideal compromise between the relationship of public schools and colleges in the goal of CCP.

Additionally, I support the requirement for the public and private colleges to notify schools when a student withdraws from a CCP course. It has become an issue in recent years where we are unaware of what credits our students are successfully receiving while in CCP. If a student were to drop out of a core class that is required to graduate, it is crucial to have an academic advisor work with them to place them back in a core class within our school so they will graduate on time.

Lastly, I support a committee to reevaluates how tuition is determined. Under the current structure students make the choice and the districts must pay the higher rate regardless if it is offered at the school.

Thank you for your time to hear my testimony and I request that H.B. 62 be passed with the inclusion of these reforms in the interest of fairness, fiscal responsibility, and the continued success of both the K-12 students and the CCP program as a whole.

Best,