Good afternoon,

My name is Brandon Rossi, and I am a resident of Northeast Ohio.

House Bill 486 affirms the First Amendment rights of educators to share the positive impact of Christianity on American history. Currently, many educators feel as though their careers are at stake if they share objective truths about American history in regard to the positive impact of Christianity on it.

This should not be the case if we want history to be taught as it actually happened. Educators should feel at liberty to share that which is factually true with students and not feel pressured to teach an incomplete version of history.

I support this bill because Christianity's influence gave us the idea that we have certain rights that come from our Creator. It also promoted the idea that the human race is made in the image of God and should not be the subject of cruelty.

The following quote from President John Quincy Adams shows the deep impact that Christianity had on him:

John Quincy Adams said in a letter, "My custom is to read four or five chapters of the Bible every morning immediately after rising from bed. It employs almost an hour of my time & seems to me the most suitable manner of beginning the day."

A quote from President John Adams shows his positive view of religion. President John Adams said,

"Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other."

If anyone doubts Christianity's impact on our history, it should be noted that all 50 state constitutions mention God or the divine.

It should also be noted that the Declaration of Independence mentions God four times.

Also written on the Liberty Bell is a portion of Scripture from the book of Leviticus: "Proclaim Liberty Throughout All the Land Unto All the Inhabitants thereof."

I say that Christian influence on our nation has brought forth liberty, and we should set educators at

liberty to discuss the Christian influence on our history.

Thank you for your time, and I am happy to take your questions.