

Columbus South HS Army JROTC

Columbus South High school
1160 Ann St
Columbus, Oh 43206
Ph: 614-365-5541



03 November, 2025

On behalf of Columbus South High School's Army JROTC program, I'm writing to express our support for House Bill 500, which would formally recognize Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC) programs as part of Ohio's career-technical education (CTE) system. This bill is important because it gives schools the ability to classify JROTC as a career-technical pathway, allowing students to earn credit and schools to receive funding for programs that already teach real leadership, structure and career readiness. JROTC develops skills in teamwork, responsibility and civic engagement that directly carry over into both military and civilian careers. By including JROTC in the CTE framework, the bill ensures these programs have the same recognition and resources as other technical fields, something that's long overdue. It's a practical step that helps schools maintain strong programs and gives more students the chance to participate without added financial barriers. House Bill 500 supports Ohio's goal of expanding workforce development opportunities while also preparing the next generation of public servants and leaders. For that reason, we fully support this bill and encourage its passage.

Sincerely,

Benjamin J Zumock

Benjamin Zumock
MSG(Retired), U.S. Army
Army Instructor
Bzumock@columbus.k12.oh.us