

Testimony for Best Buddies in Ohio H.B. No. 96: Make state operating appropriations for FY 2026-27 for Best Buddies Position: Favorable House of Representatives Finance Committee Wednesday, April 2, 2025 Room 313

To: Chair Stewart, Vice Chair Dovilla, and members of the Finance Committee

From: Sophia Wooddell, Best Buddies Participant

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Hello, my name is Sophia Wooddell. I am a member of the Best Buddies Friendship Chapter at Upper Arlington High School. I am in tenth grade and have been a member of Best Buddies for five years. Thank you for inviting me to give testimony today about why Best Buddies is so important to me.

It has been amazing being matched in a one-to-one friendship match with Logan. Since joining Best Buddies I love the many activities like going to the movies and lunches with Logan. I love Best Buddies because I have made friends. My favorite part about Logan is that she is kind and caring Best Buddies has also offered me trainings that have helped me grow as a leader.

Ohio needs more Best Buddies chapters because everyone should have the chance to have friends. Thank you very much.