

**Testimony of Dr. Kareem Moncree-Moffett, PhD**

Proponent Testimony for H.B. 302

Ohio House Judiciary Committee

October 8, 2025

**Chair Thomas, Vice Chair Swearingen, Ranking Member Synenberg, and members of the Committee:**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. My name is Dr. Kareem Moncree-Moffett. I serve on the Cincinnati Board of Education, and I am also the founder of the Youth Lead Alliance, which equips students to lead with their voices and experiences.

My work, both in the classroom and on the school board, keeps me close to the realities of how young people are using technology. I've taught students who depend on online tools to keep up with assignments. I've worked with families who use digital platforms as the only way to access services.

The thread through all of this is clear: students need both access and protection. Cutting them off from technology is not an option. But asking parents and teachers to carry the entire burden of safety isn't realistic either. What families are asking for are rules that make technology safer without putting up barriers that block opportunity.

From my perspective, House Bill 302 gets closer to that balance. It would give parents practical authority where it matters most, require companies to build protections into the platforms kids already use, and ensure privacy is respected rather than traded away. For communities like Cincinnati, where access to opportunity is already uneven, this balance matters even more. Our students shouldn't have to choose between being connected and being safe.

What I would add – and this comes directly from my work with Youth Lead Alliance – is that young people want to be part of this conversation. They don't just want adults making decisions for them; they want to see that their voices are heard in shaping solutions. HB 302 moves us in that direction by recognizing the shared responsibility between families, companies, and lawmakers.

As an educator, as a school board member, and as someone who works closely with young leaders, I urge you to advance this bill. It is a step toward the thoughtful, balanced framework families and students are asking for.

Thank you for your time.