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RE: Senate Bill 127

Dear Senate Education Committee members:

I am writing to you to encourage you to vote no on Senate Bill 127. I am a proud parent of two school aged children currently attending a Cincinnati Public School.

I am deeply concerned about Senate Bill 127 because of its ability to strip away parent rights. This bill stands to give the government more control than parents, and I find this to be deeply disturbing. Instead of the government addressing root issues like poverty, underfunded mental health resources, and educator shortages, SB 127 would expand reliance on standardized test scores to determine if a school is “underperforming”. Using standardized test scores to measure student learning is problematic as these tests can be biased and fail to measure crucial skills beyond memorization. Prioritizing test scores to determining if a school should be closed would do a disservice to local communities and families across the state, mainly impacting urban and rural areas.

Ohio parents do not need the government making decisions for us. I want to the state of Ohio to make decisions with parents.

Additionally, SB 127 would harm students and families in urban and rural areas, lead to mass job losses for school staff, and strip authority from our locally elected school boards that understand their community’s needs best.

I urge you to vote no on SB 127.

Thank you for your time,  
Emily Moores