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### **Senate Education Committee Senate Bill 156 Sponsor Testimony**

Chair Brenner, Vice Chair Blessing, Ranking Member Ingram, and members of the Senate Education Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide sponsor testimony on Senate Bill 156.

The “Success Sequence” is a proven formula to help young adults avoid poverty and achieve the American Dream. It is based upon research from diverse institutions such as The Brookings Institute, the American Enterprise Institute, and Federal Government Agencies, that has consistently found that 97% of individuals who:

1. Complete at least a high school education,
2. Obtain full-time work, and
3. Marry before having children; do not live in poverty in adulthood.

Moreover, this legislation requires the Department of Education and Workforce to develop standards and a model curriculum about the Success Sequence for grades six to twelve, which shall include evidence, identified using the best research methods available, and describing the positive personal and societal outcomes associated with the Success Sequence.

Additionally, the department shall establish a committee including school district board of education members and parents of students enrolled in school districts to

review the standards and model curriculum, and instructional materials aligned with them that may be used in annual Success Sequence discussions.

The Success Sequence is a pathway that can help youth thrive and achieve optimal health, all the while heightening financial literacy and acting as a catalyst for poverty avoidance. Regardless of partisan beliefs, this legislation is a framework for a better future for all Ohioans. The Success Sequence works to empower individuals and families; and teaches the self-sufficiency and independence needed to succeed in today's society.

Thank you again for the opportunity to provide sponsor testimony on Senate Bill 156. I would be happy to answer any questions at this time.