

Written Testimony  
Ohio House Bill 96  
Senate Education Committee  
May 12, 2025

Andrew Granieri  
Resident, Anderson Township, OH

Chair Brenner, Vice Chair Blessing, Ranking Member Ingram, and members of the Senate Education Committee:

Thank you for allowing me to submit written testimony. My name is Andrew Granieri, and I am a resident of Anderson Township and proud parent to two students in the Forest Hills School District. I am also an active board member on the PTO of my children's elementary school where we work tirelessly to fundraise and support the teachers and school where other funding is unable to stretch. I am submitting testimony to urge the committee to fully fund Ohio's public schools in the budget bill.

Suburban school districts like my home district of Forest Hills already receive less funding per pupil than other Ohio Schools while achieving at the top of all "best of" school lists. According to the Ohio Department of Education CUPP report, the average funding per pupil in the state is \$7,443.12. The cost per pupil received in our district is only \$3,607.91. Our community is made up primarily of middle-class families who are already over-extended. We do not have the capacity to pass further levies to make up the difference should our state funding decrease even further.

One of the main reasons our community was able to pass our most recent levy is because our district proudly spends less per pupil with greater achievement than our peers in similar districts (Forest Hills at \$14,700.91 vs state average of \$16,310.87). But the hit our district would take without the Fair School funding plan would be devastating.

My asks for this committee are:

- Protect the guarantee for Forest Hills and similar districts
- Fully implement the Fair School Funding Plan, including the phase-in, and update the inputs
- Eliminate the cap on savings

I ask you to consider my testimony and choose to support the 90% of Ohio students who attend public schools. Communities like ours cannot afford to make up the difference.

Andrew Granieri