

HB 96 WITNESS INFORMATION FORM

Please complete the Witness Information Form before testifying:

Date: 05/12/2025

Name: Dezmenn Sisney, Student At Meadowdale Career Technology Center, reading for Alexis Edwards

Are you representing: Yourself **Organization**

Organization (If Applicable): Dayton Public Schools

Position/Title: Student

Address: 3873 Whitestone Court

City: State: Zip: Dayton, OH 45416

Best Contact Telephone: 937-903-5414 Email: kodonnell@daytonpublic.com

Do you wish to be added to the committee notice email distribution list? **Yes**

Business before the committee

Legislation (Bill/Resolution Number): House Bill 96

Specific Issue: Education Transportation Funding

Are you testifying as a: **Interested Party**

Will you have a written statement, visual aids, or other material to distribute? **Yes**

(If yes, please send an electronic version of the documents, if possible, to the Chair's office prior to committee. You may also submit hard copies to the Chair's staff prior to committee.)

How much time will your testimony require? **1-2 minutes**

Please provide a brief statement on your position: **The following testimony advocates for more funding for buses to public schools.**

I kindly ask the representative to address the problem of school transportation for people. Lately some transportation for students has been unavailable, affecting some students' ability to access their education. Lack of proper transportation leads to students not being able to get to school on time or even being able to get to school. That can be a stressful experience for students' parents and the student themselves. (<https://stnonline.com>.) An Example from School Transportation News says that "Schools have reported delays, cancellations and logistical obstacles that disrupt the school day and create stress for families." All this due to not having school buses. Research has even shown that the lack of school buses/transportation for students could possibly lead to lower student test scores, increased stress, and behavioral problems. Parents already have the stress of their lives, and the worry that something could happen to their children anytime, with the lack of transportation on top. Parents who work may be stressing on how to get the kids to school and balance work.

I have experienced grown adults fighting on the RTA bus. I don't want any students having to see that or go through that; someone could have brought out a weapon or worse and the student could have gotten hurt due to the adults fighting on the bus. Transportation needs to be safer for everyone, and not only have some schools have buses. If every school cant have them, then none should have them. Make it fair. If students are not getting enough proper education, how are they going to make it to the world, in the first place. Children are what makes our future, I don't know much about the other parts of the world if and if they have transportation problems. But I know at this rate we are losing a future worth having for our future generations to come.

The funding for school bus transportation has suffered a big cut from funding, leading to barely having any school buses for school. (<https://slate.com>) The Department of education has a big responsibility for doing something about the transportation issue for schools. We need to address the fact that not many drivers are getting paid enough to support themselves. On top of that, the cost of getting a school bus is already a lot, sometimes hundreds of thousands of dollars.

We need to invest more into transportation if we want our future generations to get to a better start. It would be a waste of school funding if students can not get to school on time. We need The Department of Transportation to increase its work on reducing the cost of getting rides, and giving free rides for buses for some people.

(www.transportation.gov. There are not enough people speaking out about the transportation problems. Trying to solve this problem of school transportation takes more than one person; it takes a big effort and needs to be coordinated throughout a large community.

We need our representatives to speak up and call for the Department of Transportation to re-look for a way for all students to have a safe and efficient way to get to school. You have the power to plan and coordinate better ways for transportation, and you can set safety regulations for all models of transportation. This request isn't to just benefit the students but it's to benefit the community, your world, our home. Students should be able to go to a place to learn, without going through a chance of harm coming towards them, or being unable to reach the place.

Children shouldn't have to walk through unsafe neighborhoods, or have to go to the downtown hub, with a chance of missing the bus. Anything could happen to students on their way to get to school or home, due to not very safe transportation being provided. If we get every student a safe bus, parents will be able to work without having to worry about their kid not being able to get to school. Students will be in a little bit less danger, and don't stress about getting their education. And overall, it will be way more beneficial for people. Can you commit to proposing some type of law that requires more safe transportation for all students?