

Senate Education Committee
House Bill 96—Interested Party Testimony
May 12, 2025

Chair Andrew O. Brenner, Vice Chair Lewis W. Blessing, III, Ranking Member Catherine D. Ingram,
and members of the Senate Education Committee

Education Committee:

Thank you for accepting my testimony today. My name is Linda Goodwin. I am a retired high school teacher from Celina. I want to urge the committee to continue phasing the Fair School Funding Plan into Ohio's budget. The plan was designed by educators and took years to produce. It is supported by a great deal of valuable research. There is no excuse for abandoning this plan in its final phase of implementation, particularly since there has been no alternate plan proposed by the House.

In my 35 years of teaching, I saw our school struggle with a lack of appropriate funding. Books would have to be rebound more than once because they were so old. In some courses only a class set was available. Access to computers and other technologies was limited. Ninety percent of Ohio's students attend public schools. Cutting substantial State funding puts the burden of funding schools on local communities. Not all of the schools are in affluent districts. All students deserve well-funded schools.

Support the students who attend public schools by continuing to phase the bipartisan Fair School Funding Plan into Ohio's budget.