



SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE – PROPONENT TESTIMONY, SB 68 – 2.25.25

Chairman Cirino, Vice-Chair Chavez, Ranking Member Hicks-Hudson, and members of the Senate Finance Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Senate Bill 68, which seeks to establish the Non-chartered Educational Savings Account (ESA) Program. My name is Donovan O’Neil and I serve as the State Director for Americans for Prosperity – Ohio. As the nation’s leading conservative grassroots advocacy organization, we put a megaphone to the voices of Ohioans seeking transformational public policy reforms. Our Buckeye Blueprint Policy Agenda is a vision for a bolder, better Buckeye state. Education Opportunity is a key part of that Blueprint. On behalf of Americans for Prosperity – Ohio, I am here to express support for this legislation, which aligns with our core Education Opportunity principles of Fund Families, Maximize Flexibility, and Expand Supply of Education Options.

Fund Families

SB68 empowers parents by providing financial resources to choose the best educational environment for their children. By establishing ESAs, families can access funds for tuition, fees, and educational materials at participating non-chartered non-public schools. This investment in families ensures that parents can make decisions that best meet their children's unique educational needs.

Maximize Flexibility

The ESA program maximizes flexibility by allowing parents to tailor their children's education to their specific needs. Funds can be used in various ways, supporting a personalized educational experience. This flexibility is essential in today's diverse educational landscape, empowering parents to take control of their children's education.

Expand Supply of Education Options

SB68 expands the supply of education options by providing financial support to non-chartered non-public schools; a key gap in the current school choice funding landscape. This encourages the growth of alternative educational institutions, leading to more innovative offerings. The program ensures that all families, regardless of means, have access to these expanded options.

Senate Bill 68 represents a significant step forward in supporting families, maximizing flexibility, and expanding the supply of education options in Ohio. I urge the members of this

committee to support this important legislation. Thank you for your time and consideration. I am happy to answer any questions you may have.