

Chair Cirino, Vice Chair Chavez, Ranking Member Hicks-Hudson, and Honorable Members of the Senate Finance Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of Senate Bill 68, which would establish the Non-chartered Educational Savings Account Program in Ohio.

My name is Jason Jones and I reside in New Albany, OH. I'm here today to acknowledge that while school choice was expanded in the last state operating budget cycle through the EdChoice Scholarship Program, there are still a significant amount of Ohio families who have been left out. My family is one of them.

My son Harrison Jones, my wife Ashley Holman, and I reside at 7030 Dean Farm Rd New Albany OH which is part New Albany Plain school district. Harrison attends Columbus Classical Academy at 2000 Polaris Pkwy, Columbus, OH.

Since joining Columbus Classical Academy my son has developed both educationally and personally in ways that are not possible in the public school system.

We firmly believe families deserve financial support when they choose to send their children to a non chartered School like Columbus Classical Academy. Tax paying families should have the opportunity to choose a school that most aligns to their educational goals and be eligible for these types of financial programs.

I urge the Committee to favorably report Senate Bill 68 to make school choice truly universal in the Buckeye State. Knowing that the state operating budget cycle is the avenue for advancing bold, transformational public policy, I urge the legislature to bring the Non-chartered Education Savings Account Program to fruition during this decisive and impactful process. It would make a world of difference for a significant amount of Ohio families.

Thank you again for the opportunity to provide testimony on Senate Bill 68. I would be happy to answer any questions at this time.

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