

Chair Cirino, Vice Chair Chavez, Ranking Member Hicks-Hudson, and members of the Senate Finance Committee,

Thank you for allowing me to testify today. My name is Ashly Shroyer. I am graduate of Ohio public schools and the parent to two elementary age Ohio public school students. I'm providing this written testimony to urge the committee to fully phase the bipartisan Fair School Funding Plan — including updated base cost inputs — into Ohio's budget.

Providing Ohio's children a superb public education will ensure a great future for our state and all of its residents. Gov DeWine's budget proposal is based on 2022 costs – which due to inflation, amounts to a funding cut. If we fail to update those costs, Ohio would be funding public schools at a lower level than it did in 1997, when the Supreme Court declared the school funding system unconstitutional. In order to work, the Fair School Funding Plan's formula must be based on updated cost components and must account for the cost of educating students with special needs, economically disadvantaged students and English language learners. We cannot accept a system that leaves our children behind but cutting funding to their schools.

I ask you to consider my testimony and choose to support the 90% of Ohio students who attend public schools. Please fully phase the bipartisan Fair School Funding Plan into Ohio's budget. This includes the updated inputs and all tools needed to implement it properly.

Thank you again for the opportunity to testify.

Ashly Shroyer

Resident of Beavercreek, Ohio