

**Ohio Senate**  
**Ohio Senate Finance Committee**  
**May 29, 2025**

**Written Testimony of Kristy Piper**

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

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this written testimony in opposition to the 30% cap outlined in House Bill 96. My name is Kristy Piper, and I serve as the Vice President of the Brunswick Education Association. I am currently completing my twenty-fifth year as a music educator in the Brunswick City Schools. In addition to my role as an educator, I am a proud resident of Brunswick, Ohio, where I serve as a Councilwoman At-Large.

The Brunswick City School District has consistently demonstrated strong fiscal responsibility, earning recognition on multiple occasions from the Ohio Auditor's Office. As both an educator and a taxpayer, I take great pride in the district's prudent financial stewardship. Our community trusts the school district to manage funds responsibly, and that trust is reflected in our approach to levies and bond issues, which are proposed only when truly necessary and with full transparency.

When our district places a levy or bond issue on the ballot, residents—including myself—make informed decisions based on accurate, truthful information. We have chosen, through the democratic process, to allocate our local tax dollars to support our public schools. The proposed 30% funding cap undermines that local decision-making. As a voter and taxpayer, I am deeply concerned by any effort that seeks to override the will of our community by dictating how our tax dollars should be spent after we have already spoken.

Rather than imposing arbitrary caps, I urge you to prioritize the full implementation of the Fair School Funding Plan. This plan, adopted with bipartisan support and designed to be phased in over several years, was a commitment to providing equitable and sustainable funding for Ohio's public schools. Diverting funds that were intended for public education is not only short-sighted—it is detrimental to our students and communities.

Our children deserve a fully funded, high-quality public education system. I respectfully ask this committee to oppose the 30% cap proposed in HB 96 and to honor the intent of the Fair School Funding Plan.

Thank you again for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

**Kristy Piper**

Vice President, Brunswick Education Association  
Councilwoman At-Large, City of Brunswick  
Educator, Brunswick City Schools