



Felicity-Franklin FFA

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2025-2026

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FFA Mission

FFA makes a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education.

To the Senate Finance Committee,

Good afternoon. My name is Holly Jennings, and I am the Agricultural Educator at Felicity-Franklin High School. I am proud to have just completed my 24th year in education, with each year affirming the essential role that agricultural education plays in preparing our youth for successful futures.

I am writing in support of HB 96, which provides critical 5th Quarter funding for Agricultural Education Teachers across Ohio. Currently funded at \$600,000 in the state budget, we respectfully request that this amount be increased to \$1.2 million annually for the next two years. This investment is essential to ensure that the 500+ Agricultural Educators in more than 300 schools can continue providing meaningful instruction and mentorship to the over 30,000 FFA members in Ohio.

Much of the work we do as Ag Educators—supervising SAE projects, organizing leadership events, facilitating CDE preparation, and guiding students through community service—occurs well outside of the traditional school day. This time spent with students is not only unpaid but also invaluable. It builds skills, character, and confidence that can't always be taught in a classroom.

At Felicity-Franklin, I have had the honor of watching students transform through hands-on learning experiences and leadership opportunities. Whether preparing for state competitions, attending FFA Camp, or managing their own agricultural projects, our students are learning to lead, serve, and innovate.

Thank you for considering this funding increase, which would recognize the time and dedication invested by Ag Educators and allow us to continue delivering these life-changing experiences.

Sincerely,

Holly Jennings
Agricultural Educator
Felicity-Franklin High School