



University of Dayton

February 9, 2021

Ohio House of Representatives
State & Local Government Committee
77 South High Street – 13th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215

Chairman Wiggam and Ranking Member Kelly:

As the Dean of the University of Dayton's School of Education & Health Sciences, I write in support of **House Bill 6**. The bill represents an important step toward ensuring that Ohio colleges provide students in the study of education a safe return to campus, as well as opportunities to pursue their education in an effective and timely manner. Our education students are critical to the short- and long-term viability of Ohio's workforce.

House Bill 6 provides clarity and avoids penalizing students for forces beyond their control. Given the COVID-19 pandemic departure of students from campus last March, our teacher preparation students were unable to complete their field experiences in the traditional manner. We appreciate the flexibility and support of the Department of Education in addressing the related issues quickly. As of now, without any type of waiver from ODE/ODHE or the legislature, our current students will not be able to meet current requirements including the edTPA. By codifying flexibility to be eligible for a teaching license or endorsement, you are providing certainty in this uncertain environment.

While we are doing everything we can to successfully bring this academic year to a successful close for our students, we know there are many unknowns about how the pandemic will progress in the days ahead. I am pleased to express support for the bill's wisdom in providing latitude to universities to provide creative options for students to meet their classroom-based and field education.

Thank you once again for the support, direction, and willingness to include a range of voices as the citizens of Ohio work to find our way through the COVID-19 pandemic. Specifically we are grateful that our colleges and universities can continue their important work of educating our next generation of teachers, as well as a range of other critical professions. If I can be of further assistance with regard to **HB6**, please contact me at cdaprano1@udayton.edu.

Sincerely,

Ali Carr-Chellman, Ph.D.
Dean School of Education and Health Sciences