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Committees

Financial Institutions, Housing & Urban Development  
Higher Education & Workforce Development  
Education & Career Readiness

# State Representative Catherine D. Ingram

Rep. Catherine D. Ingram Sponsor Testimony – House Bill 487  
House Education and Career Readiness Committee

June 19, 2018

Chairman Brenner, Vice Chairwoman Slaby, Ranking Member Fedor, and members of the Education and Career Readiness committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide sponsor testimony on House Bill 487.

House Bill 487 eliminates the right of first refusal that state law currently provides to community schools, college-preparatory boarding schools, and STEM schools before public school districts put property up for sale at auction or private sale.

Under Ohio law, when a board of education decides to sell property belonging to the school district, it first must offer the property to one of the aforementioned entities for 60 days before putting the property up for auction.

This unnecessary delay and hindrance to Ohio's school districts is an example of bureaucratic red-tape that can and should be eliminated in order to allow boards of education the ability to best serve the interests of the communities and students they serve.

This legislation does not prevent community schools, college-preparatory boarding schools, and STEM schools from attempting to purchase school district property. It instead allows them to participate in the public auction process similar to any other interested entity, and frees up school districts from the hassle and nuisance of delaying property sales for 60 days.

Chairman Brenner, Vice Chair Slaby, Ranking Member Fedor, and members of the Education and Career Readiness committee, I thank you for your time, and I will be happy to answer any questions.

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