

Kenston Local Schools

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Proponent Testimony on HB 227 The Ohio House Transportation and Public Safety Committee

Thank you Chairman Green, Vice Chair Greenspan, Ranking Member Sheehy and members of the committee and to the Honorable Representative LaTourette for sponsoring this legislation. I appreciate the opportunity to speak in favor of House Bill 227. This legislation would create a specialty license plate for the Kenston Local Schools.

Kenston Local Schools are located in the southwestern corner of Geauga County comprised of Auburn and Bainbridge Townships. Our community retains its semi-rural lifestyle and values its farming roots.

Our staff is committed to creating thinkers and learners that use their experiences beyond the walls of the classroom.

Our community has worked collaboratively to provide our students with important lessons by modeling "Go Green" initiatives and creating healthier learning environments. In 2013, the district was recognized by the U.S. Department of Education as a Green Ribbon School. Kenston was recognized for their work creating a culture of environmental responsibility by retrofitting lights, installing low-flow fixtures, establishing building recycling programs, the creation of an on-campus Arboretum and construction of the Kenston Trails. The most visible signs of our renewable energy efforts are an Aeronautica 750kW Wind Turbine and fixed and tracker solar arrays on campus.

In addition to providing power for the high school, the wind turbine and solar array systems provide real-time data that is utilized by high school students in our AP Environmental Science/Alternative Energies course.

Our community and alumni are eager to demonstrate and show their pride in our school district and townships.

I thank the committee for their time and consideration and would be happy to answer any questions the committee may have.

Respectfully,

Katy B. McGrath

Director of Community Relations