Chairwoman Lehner,

I am unable to attend the Senate Education Committee hearing on Tuesday, October 1, 2019, but I wanted to provide written comments regarding SB121.

As the mother of a kindergarten student in Columbus City Schools, I ask you to support SB 121 to require the Board of Education to set basic health education standards for students in every school district across the state.

My daughter, and students like her across Ohio, deserve to have age-appropriate health education that can help them make healthy decisions now and in the future. Right now, by the standards the state has in play, she wouldn’t have health education until high school. Columbus City Schools has adopted a health education curriculum, but if we moved out of the district, these lessons could halt, without statewide standards in place.

With so many families in our communities that struggle with addiction to tobacco, alcohol, and other drugs, it is important for our students to be armed with the coping skills to make healthier decisions for themselves and their futures. Health education is a very important in developing those skills.

Please vote yes in support of SB 121.

Sincerely,

Eliza Pendexter

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