Dear House Education Committee,

Here is my testimony about HB 73 currently before your committee.

As a veteran teacher, I cannot possibly emphasize the importance of keeping American history and government courses- with exams- as standard curriculum for our all of our Ohio students. Without testing, it signals this is really not important; kids, like adults, know whether coursework has merit because someone actually cares about testing that knowledge.

This past weekend I was duly impressed at a first grade grandchild who had memorize the first amendment in its entirety! Older high school siblings chimed in on the application of the amendment – impressive. I would like all our PUBLIC students to have access to such quality discussions as I have seen with my privately educated grandchildren.

As a veteran 8th grade inner city Ohio teacher, I urge you to oppose HB 73. Our citizens of tomorrow need a strong civic minded foundation for decision making.

Thank you. Sincerely, Denise Aman