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House Bill 529 – Requires online posting of school curricula
Sponsor Testimony – House Primary & Secondary Education Committee
May 17, 2022

Chair Manning, Vice Chair Bird, Ranking Member Robinson, and Members of the House Primary and Secondary Education Committee, thank you for the opportunity to present sponsor testimony on House Bill 529, requiring the online posting of school curricula.

The need for this legislation became evident recently due to the increasingly heated dialogue surrounding our children's education. As a result, parents are seeking to be more involved in, and have more transparency into, what is being taught in Ohio's schools. This legislation would require that schools post all curricula and syllabi on their website in a way that is clear and easily accessible.

It is not our intention to encourage or aid censorship in our education system. Nor is our intention to deal directly with Critical Race Theory (CRT) or any other specific topics. Rather, our intention is simply to foster parent involvement in their kid's education by providing them with the information and transparency that they deserve. Similar legislation has been considered or passed in other states, such as Pennsylvania and North Carolina.

This legislation could be valuable in that it will show what is, and is not, being taught in our schools. We hope that this will be a positive step in minimizing contentious encounters between school officials and parents. Additionally, these measures can act as a safeguard for the schools and eventually prevent additional work in the event of public records requests.

Chair Manning, Vice Chair Bird, Ranking Member Robinson, and Members of the House Primary and Secondary Education Committee, I thank you for your time and hope to have the support of the committee behind HB 529. I would be happy to answer any questions at this time.