

# WITNESS INFORMATION FORM

Please complete the Witness Information Form before testifying:

Date: 3-14-22

Name: Paula Crew

Are you representing: Yourself  Organization

Organization (If Applicable): Tecumseh Local Schools

Position/Title: Superintendent

Address: 2881 North Dayton Lakeview Road

City: New Carlisle State: Ohio Zip: 45344

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Do you wish to be added to the committee notice email distribution list? Yes  No

Business before the committee

Legislation (Bill/Resolution Number): HCR 13

Specific Issue: Urge Passage of Sunshine Protection Act

Are you testifying as a: Proponent  Opponent  Interested Party

Will you have a written statement, visual aids, or other material to distribute? Yes  No

(If yes, please send an electronic version of the documents, if possible, to the Chair's office prior to committee. You may also submit hard copies to the Chair's staff prior to committee.)

How much time will your testimony require? Written Only

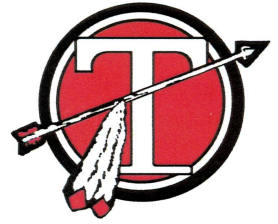
Please provide a brief statement on your position:

Proponent of HCR 13

*Please be advised that this form and any materials (written or otherwise) submitted or presented to this committee are records that may be requested by the public and may be published online.*

# Tecumseh Local Schools

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937-845-3576



*Learning for All ~ Whatever it Takes!*

**Paula Crew**  
Superintendent

**Denise L. Robinson**  
Treasurer

**Susan Wile**  
Director of  
Special Education

**Brian C. Dixon**  
Director of  
Facilities and Safety

**Tecumseh High School**  
9830 West National Road  
New Carlisle, Ohio 45344  
937-845-4500

**Tecumseh Middle School**  
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New Carlisle, Ohio 45344  
937-845-4465

**Donnelville Elementary School**  
P.O. Box 130  
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Donnelville, Ohio 45319  
937-845-4540

**New Carlisle Elementary School**  
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New Carlisle, Ohio 45344  
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**Park Layne Elementary School**  
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New Carlisle, Ohio 45344  
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**Special Education Department**  
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March 13, 2022

Dear Chairman Peterson, Vice Chair Cirino, Ranking Member Craig, and Members of the Senate General Government Budget Committee,

My name is Paula Crew and I am the Superintendent at Tecumseh Local Schools in Clark County. This is my twenty-eighth year working in the public school, with twenty-four of these years serving as either a building or district administrator. Thank you for the opportunity to provide proponent written testimony regarding HRC 13, which calls for a permanent transition to Daylight Savings Time.

The elimination of a time change, which currently occurs twice annually, will have multiple significant positive implications for students in the public school system throughout Ohio.

The first advantage that would occur by eliminating a time change would benefit every student in grades 3 - 12. Specifically, students in these grades are required to take state mandated assessments in the spring of each school year. When the spring time change occurs, this "sets our clocks forward" an hour resulting in the loss of one hour of sleep; as well as the need for a transition period to acclimate to this change. Students are expected to take the spring assessments shortly after the spring time changes while in this transition period. In fact, some districts are state testing TODAY, which is the first day after the time moved forward. Needless to say, this does not put our students in a position to perform to their optimum potential.

A second advantage of eliminating a time change in Ohio relates to our students on the Autism Spectrum, as well as other students who benefit from consistent routines each day. Oftentimes, students who have a diagnosis on the Autism Spectrum have varying levels of difficulty responding to a change in their schedule. Some reactions are mild, while others are quite intense. We have experienced students who have great difficulty transitioning with the fall and spring time change. Although school districts offer these students support during these transitions, eliminating this change would solve this particular issue.

Finally, there is evidence that tells us that suicide attempts and completions, as well as self-injurious behaviors and mental health episodes, increase during both the current fall and spring time changes. This is a time in education that our students are really struggling after the pandemic. We need to reduce the barriers that we can to support their mental and emotional health. The time change in the fall and spring certainly present as major barriers for some of our students.

Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

*Paula Crew*

Paula Crew, Ed.S.  
Superintendent  
Tecumseh Local Schools