WITNESS INFORMATION FORM

Please complete the Witness Information Form before testifying:

Date: October 8, 2023
Name: Paul Nichols
Are you representing: Yourself X Organization \Box
Organization (If Applicable):
Position/Title:
Address: 5243 Chaps Court
City: <u>Columbus</u> State: <u>OH</u> Zip: <u>43221</u>
Best Contact Telephone: 614-214-7064 Email: <u>psnichols@gmail.com</u>
Do you wish to be added to the committee notice email distribution list? Yes \square No X
Business before the committee
Legislation (Bill/Resolution Number): HB 183
Specific Issue:
Are you testifying as a: Proponent \Box Opponent X Interested Party \Box
Are you testifying: In-Person 🗆 Written-Only X
Will you have a written statement, visual aids, or other material to distribute? Yes \Box No X
(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? NA
Please provide a brief statement on your position:
Chair Young, Vice-Chair Manning, Ranking Member Miller and Members of the Higher
Education Committee

Thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony. My name is Paul Nichols, I am a resident of Columbus, Ohio and have two children going to school in the Hilliard

school district. I truly believe that our children are best set to thrive and live their lives to the absolute fullest when they can show up as themselves. I am immensely concerned that forcing school districts to go out of their way to 'solve' problem that does not actually exist is an overstep of local control. It places a group of children who are already at greatly increased risk of being bullied more directly in harms way, and reduces the flexibility of school districts to best serve their students.

I urge this committee to reject House Bill 183.

Sincerely,

Paul

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.