

Thank you, Chair Ghanbari, Vice Chair Plummer, Ranking Member Thomas, and Members of the Committee for giving me the opportunity to speak to you today about HB 223.

Jackson Local Schools is one of the top districts in Stark County. With it being ranked by U.S. News and World Report in the top 5% of all Ohio districts and in the top 8% of all districts in the United States based on the performance of its 6,000 students. It is important to recognize this amazing accomplishment for both the students and the community 43,000 that is supporting these young scholars in their endeavors. The license plates would allow the community to show their Jackson pride wherever they go. While the funds generated by the license plates would go to furthering the quality of education that Jackson Schools provide through classroom grants, scholarships, and resources for students from families suffering from economic hardships.

These programs would be run through Jackson Local Schools Foundation, a 501(c)(3) organization that also includes the Jackson High School Alumni Association. Both organizations are volunteer led and have already contributed \$208,500 through its various programs in the last 7 years. Thank you for your consideration and ask for your approval so that we can continue to help Jackson Students reach even greater heights in their future.