

Chairman Adam Bird, Vice Chairman Sarah Arthur, Ranking Member Robinson, along with the members of the Primary and Secondary Education Committee:

I am providing written testimony to encourage the members of this committee to support HB 339. I currently serve as principal at Heritage Christian School in Brooklyn, Ohio. You can explore HCS at the following link: [www.hcspatriots.org](http://www.hcspatriots.org)

As a nine-year-old boy, I attended the rally at the capital in 1974, which (with the help of Governor Rhodes), allowed HCS to operate as an 08 school. Our diploma is recognized by the state of Ohio until this day. My parents enrolled me at HCS in 1976, and I graduated in 1983. After college, I served as a principal in Pennsylvania; in 1995, was hired to teach at HCS and have served as its principal for the last nine years.

Over the past 50 years, I have seen firsthand the strong, rigorous education process that has equipped hundreds of students to succeed in life. HCS has graduates in just about every field of study ([Alumni Spotlights | Heritage Christian School \(hcspatriots.org\)](#)) and many hundreds who have become profitable citizens that contribute much to society. Our graduation rate is 99% and a high percentage of graduates go on to college. Our current and past families believe in what HCS offers enough to travel 30-40 minutes (one way) to allow their children to receive this quality education. Heritage will graduate twelve seniors this year giving us a total of 925 graduates over our 50 years of existence.

I believe that we are accountable to the families of our school but also to the state of Ohio who gives their stamp of approval on the diplomas we hand out each spring. Please consider making the 08, NCNT schools a part of the state funding that simply gives our families the money they have paid to the state for education.

Sincerely,

Mr. Luke Brown, Principal

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