

Representative / Chairman Bird,
Ohio House Primary and Secondary Education Committee,

RE: H. B. No. 339

Dear Mr Chairman,

Primary and Secondary Education Committee members,

I want to thank each and everyone involved in formulating, submitting and is discussing H. B. 339.

I am writing on behalf of Albayan Academy, a newly established Islamic High School in Middletown, OH.

AlBayan was established as the Muslim communities In Greater Cincinnati and Dayton, OH are lacking the necessary religious education their kids need. There are few Elementary and middle schools that are chartered limiting their ability to provide the necessary time to provide the Islamic education they need to on top of the regular curriculum. There were no Islamic High schools prior. Parents and Community members could not afford the financial burden.

Universal school choice program takes care of chartered schools only, leaving out the private schools that are necessary to provide proper percentage of their school hours in Islamic education.

Islamic school, like fellow Christian and Jewish schools, are important to provide the education the Muslim children need through the nonchartered Islamic schools. Muslim families had to pay taxes to the state and local governments to support public schools and then pay out of their post tax money to provide to Nonchartered NonPublic schools to educate their children. If chartered, NCNP schools, including Islamic will have to, on top of academic education, to adopt secular Humanism which goes against religious teachings.

I appreciate if you approve H. B No. 339 to give all children the chance to receive the proper academic and religious education they need and their families want them to have.

Sincerely,



Husam Hamed

Chair,

Ohio recreation and Education foundation

Albayan Academy