

Chair Manning, Vice Chair Fowler Arthur, Ranking Member Robinson and members of the House Primary and Secondary Education Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on House Bill 445. My name is Kurt Snedecor and I am from Delaware County.

I support House Bill 445. The opportunity for parents to choose released time religious instruction for their children in public schools is vital for fostering comprehensive character education. This form of instruction allows children to receive moral and ethical teachings grounded in the Bible, which can complement the education they receive. By integrating these values, children can develop a well-rounded sense of right and wrong, enhancing their ability to make ethical decisions and build strong personal character.

Furthermore, providing parents with the option of released time religious instruction respects their right to guide their children's moral and spiritual development. This choice empowers parents to align their children's education with their personal beliefs and values, fostering a sense of continuity and coherence between home and school environments. It ensures that the foundational aspects of a child's upbringing are not overlooked in their educational journey, promoting a more holistic approach to learning and personal growth.

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to advocate for House Bill 445.

Sincerely,
Kurt Snedecor