

May 29, 2024
Ruth Ann Stover
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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 Ruth Ann Stover and I am from Allen County.

The school board in our district approved the introduction of a release time religious education program in May 2022. As of May 2024, parents have enrolled over 300 children from grades 1-6. It was a 10-year journey to gain approval in our school district. Our recent parent and educator surveys confirm the positive impact this program is having on the character development of children.

With the law settled nationally on the issue of release time religious education, it absolutely should be a parental issue not a school board issue to allow students to be enrolled.

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

Sincerely,
Ruth Ann Stover