



**Senate Workforce and Higher Education Committee
September 27, 2023
Ohio School Counselor Association
Proponent Testimony**

Chairman Cirino, Vice Chair Rulli, Ranking Member Ingram, and esteemed members of the Senate Workforce and Higher Education Committee: thank you for allowing the Ohio School Counselor Association (OSCA) the opportunity to submit testimony in favor of HB 27, a commonsense bill that will help educate students about the realistic costs of a college pathway.

OSCA is supportive of efforts to ensure high school students have as much information as possible when making critical college application and enrollment decisions. We believe proactive transparency is a positive step forward, especially as costs generally continue rising at higher education institutions across the country. In our work helping students navigate this process, we often find students experience “sticker shock” when conducting their initial research on schools and tuition amounts. The required inclusion of financial aid sources in HB 27’s disclosure form and, more importantly, the expected net cost of attendance after financial aid has been applied, will provide students with a more accurate sense of whether they can afford that institution. This will improve their ability to make a fully informed decision and balance their interests with their family’s expected college budget.

We greatly appreciate the sponsor’s proactive outreach to our organization and other stakeholders prior to the bill’s introduction, and applaud him for his thoughtful consideration of this legislation and willingness to respond to questions our members had. Thank you for considering our support for HB 27.