



PRESS RELEASE
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Ohio Advisory Committee to the U. S. Commission on Civil Rights
Releases Report: *Education Funding in Ohio*

Chicago, IL –The Ohio Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights released a report following a series of public meetings and collection of public testimony on civil rights and education funding in the state. The report examines the status of education funding in Ohio, in the context of the state’s obligation to provide “equal participation”¹ in a "thorough and efficient system of common schools."²

In this study, the Committee sought to evaluate Ohio's allocation of educational funding and its impact on the availability and quality of educational services in the state. The Committee’s purpose was to review whether and to what extent the State’s current school funding efforts serve either to exacerbate or ameliorate identified disparities in educational quality and outcomes on the basis of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, and/or disability status. Primary concerns addressed in the report include: (1) the adequacy of current education funding in the state and the equity of its distribution; (2) the link between education funding and student achievement; (3) the impact of private, religious, and charter schools on traditional neighborhood public schools; and (4) evidence-based interventions to improve student achievement. The report concludes with a series of recommendations regarding actions that can be taken to understand and address the identified civil rights issues moving forward.

Committee Chair Diane Citrino said, “Our Committee examined barriers and opportunities in Ohio’s education funding system, particularly for children of color or with disabilities. We hope the data and suggestions provided will help move Ohio forward and expand opportunities in education for all.”

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The U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, established by the Civil Rights Act of 1957, is the only independent, bipartisan agency charged with advising the President and Congress on civil rights and reporting annually on federal civil rights enforcement. Our 51 state Advisory Committees offer a broad perspective on civil rights concerns at state and local levels. The Commission: in our 7th decade, a continuing legacy of influence in civil rights. For information about the Commission, please visit www.usccr.gov and follow us on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).

¹ OHIO CONST. art. VIII, § 25 *Of schools and poor children* (1802).

² OHIO CONST. art. VI, § 2 *School Funds* (1851).