

*Co-Chair*  
*Charleta B. Tavares*  
*Assistant Minority Leader*  
*15<sup>th</sup> Senate District*



*Co-Chair*  
*William G. Batchelder, Speaker*  
*69<sup>th</sup> House District*

## OHIO CONSTITUTIONAL MODERNIZATION COMMISSION

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### MEMORANDUM

**To:** Speaker Batchelder & Senator Tavares, Co-Chairs  
**FROM:** Chad Readler, Chair, and Edward Gilbert, Vice-Chair  
**DATE:** JUNE 16, 2014  
**RE:** Education, Public Institutions and Miscellaneous, and Local Governments  
Committee Report for June 12 Meeting

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**Members Present:** Brooks, Clyde, Gilbert, Macon, Readler, Sykes, Taft, and Talley. Senator Sawyer joined the Committee for the hearing as a non-voting member.

**Topics Discussed:** The Committee engaged in a lengthy discussion of the history of the current language in Article VI, Sections 1-3, and heard testimony regarding respective proposals made by Chair Readler and Professor Charlie Wilson to revise the current constitutional language. Professor Wilson, who presented lengthy, detailed remarks, testified that the historical basis for Section 1 may no longer make that Section relevant. Professor Wilson also testified regarding the historical underpinnings of the “thorough and efficient system of common schools” provision in Section 2. Finally, Professor Wilson addressed early childhood education and how the issue has been address in other states. Professor Wilson concluded his remarks by sharing two alternative proposals for amending Article VI, Section 2.

Two other speakers, Maureen Ready and Stephen Dyer, testified in opposition to changes to Section 2’s “thorough and efficient” language.

**Witnesses:** Professor Charlie Wilson, Moritz College of Law; Maureen Ready, Friends of Ohio Education; Stephen Dyer, Innovation Ohio

**Votes Taken:** None

**Next Meeting:** The Committee will meet on July 10 to discuss the proposals put forward during recent meetings, and to hear from Professor Steinglass regarding the current necessity of Article VI, Section 1.