

Chairman Brenner, Vice Chair O'Brien, Ranking Member Ingram, and Members of the Senate Education Committee, thank you for allowing me to provide opponent testimony on Senate Bill 1. I am *(input personalized information here & provide background, add your experience with your education or the education of your children or grandchildren).*

Senate Bill 1 has some major flaws. The first being the centralization of power to the appointed Director of Education and Workforce and two appointed Deputy Directors of K-12 and Deputy Director of Career and Technology. Centralizing education has its advantages and disadvantages. Concentrating the decision-making powers in a few leaders at the top of the organizational structure will broadly affect the implementation of important educational decisions. Decisions made by the Director of DEW and communicated to Assistant Deputy Director(s) and so on, to lower levels for implementation will result in a lack of oversight on the implementation of those decisions. Meaning, the most critical component of the process implementation and transparency, will suffer due to this new structure. These critical decisions affecting our children's education will be poorly implemented or simply ignored as will public input. There will also be delays in communication as a result of this centralized structure, which will result in loss of productivity and extended wait times for clarification and guidance on newly communicated information. There are additional concerns related to group think. When three people oversee all decisions going to the same state-level meetings, committees, coalitions, and listening to the same educational think tanks increases the risk of bad decisions due to lack of opposition, lack of creativity, and lack of feedback on decisions propelling poorer decision-making. For the above reasons, the centralization of power in Ohio's educational system are concerning.

Limited government should be a core tenant of many among our legislators today. For this reason, I adamantly oppose the restructuring of the Ohio Department of Education and the elimination of Ohioans voices providing input and feedback into our children's education. I can agree that change is necessary and inevitable for Ohio's future, however, taking the nuclear

family out of the educational system has already proven devastating to Ohio's education via Common Core and now the Whole Child Framework. Let us first remember the nuclear family, as the most valuable partner in the educational process with decades of research proving it.

Respectfully,

*(Your Information Here)*