

Proposed: 2/21/2023

RESOLUTION NO. 024-2023(COTW), *First Reading*

By President Hart, Vice President Cobb, Councilwoman Boyd, Councilwoman Russell, Councilman Cuda, Councilman Mattox, Councilwoman Larson, and Mayor Seren

A Resolution opposing Senate Bill 1 which would transfer most powers and duties of the State Board of Education to the Governor, and declaring the necessity that this legislation become immediately effective as an emergency measure.

WHEREAS, the State Board of Education (Board) is a 19-member, non-partisan body with eleven elected members and eight members appointed by the Governor; and

WHEREAS, in November 2021, Ohio voters elected three Democrats to the Board, thereby removing two Republicans (a third Republican withdrew) and increasing the number of Democrats on the Board to 7; and

WHEREAS, the winning Democrats were backed by the Ohio Democratic Party and Ohio's teachers' unions; and

WHEREAS, S.B. 1 would remove most of the control over education policy from the Board and give it over to the Governor, a move that could very well politicize education policy; and

WHEREAS, S.B. 1 would silence the public in that the new cabinet-level position means that administrative rules would be made without public input or input from the Board; and

WHEREAS, if the Governor were to create a new administrative office over education, the cost implications would bear a heavy financial burden on the tax payers of Ohio; and

WHEREAS, this Council and the Mayor believe S.B. 1 amounts to a power-grab by the legislature in order to maintain conservative control over Board policies.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Cleveland Heights, Ohio, that:

SECTION 1. This Council and the Mayor of the City of Cleveland Heights oppose Senate Bill 1 that transfers most powers and duties of the State Board of Education to the governor.

SECTION 2. Notice of the passage of this Resolution shall be given by publishing the title and abstract of contents, prepared by the Director of Law, once in one newspaper of general circulation in the City of Cleveland Heights.

SECTION 3. That the Clerk of Council is directed to transmit copies of this resolution to Governor Mike DeWine and to all members of the Ohio General Assembly.

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SECTION 4. It is necessary that this Resolution become immediately effective as an emergency measure immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety of the inhabitants of the City of Cleveland Heights, with such emergency being the need to make timely protest. Wherefore, provided it receives the affirmative vote of five (5) or more of the members elected or appointed to this Council, this Resolution shall take effect and be in force immediately upon its passage; otherwise, it shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest time allowed by law.

Melody Joy Hart
MELODY JOY HART
President of Council

Addie Balester
ADDIE BALESTER
Clerk of Council

PASSED: 02/21/2023

Presented to Mayor: 02/21/2023

Approved: 2/21/2023

KAHLIL SEREN
Mayor