



SENATOR PEGGY LEHNER
6th Ohio Senate District

Committees:
Education (Chair)
Finance- Education Subcommittee
Medicaid
Health and Human Services
Criminal Justice

SB 247 Sponsor Testimony
Senator Peggy Lehner & Edna Brown
House Education Committee
December 5, 2016

Chairman Brenner, Vice Chair Slaby, Ranking Member Fedor, and members of the House Education Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide sponsor testimony on Senate Bill 247.

This bill is aimed at addressing a barrier some children face trying to obtain an education. For many students in Ohio, the breakfasts and lunches they receive during the school day are all they will eat that day. When the school year ends many kids are excited for the summer break, while others worry more about where their next meal will come from.

Senate Bill 247 would allow school districts to open their doors to approved summer food service programs and let those programs use the school's facilities to provide summer meals. Currently, the district board of education can opt out of providing summer meals for financial reasons. This bill allows programs that have the resources to provide a service that kids need and the schools can't afford.

Under the bill, the district may charge the summer food service program a reasonable fee for the use of the school's facilities. That fee may include the actual cost of custodial services, charges for the use of school equipment, and a prorated share of the utility costs as determined by the district board.

The bill also holds the district harmless from any potential liability resulting from the operation of the summer food service program.

This is a piece of legislation that will truly help students in need from having to worry about something most of us take for granted.

Chairman Brenner and members of the committee thank you for your consideration on Senate Bill 247 and I'd be happy to answer any questions.

