

Chairman Blessing, Vice Chair Jones, Ranking Member Robinson, and members of the Primary and Secondary Education Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in opposition of HB 165.

I would like to call your attention to lines 23 and 24 of HB165, which reads:

Section 2. *That section 3301.0718 of the Revised Code is hereby repealed.*

I would like to read a brief excerpt from the bill analysis which further explains:

The bill repeals current law that prohibits the State Board of Education from adopting or revising any standards or curriculum in the area of health unless the standards, curriculum, or revisions are approved by both houses of the General Assembly through a concurrent resolution. Additionally, the bill repeals a provision that requires both the House and Senate education committees to conduct at least one public hearing on the standards, curriculum, or revisions prior to voting on the concurrent resolution.

<https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/download?key=11878&format=pdf>

This bill would destroy the process that is in place to ensure that Ohio's health standards and curriculum are a reflection of what is best for Ohio as is determined by Ohio's General Assembly via concurrent resolution.

This bill proposes the adoption of health standards developed by the American Association of Health Educators. This organization, the American Association of Health Educators no longer exists. What will the updated version of the bill say? Should this bill be voted on without an accurately named organization? How would the new, yet to be clearly named organization determine changes to the standards or future standards? Do they vote? If the standards are determined by vote, what level of conflict of interest is tolerated amongst voting members? At what defined intervals would the health standards become subject to change?

What happens when national committees are given power without appropriate checks and balances?

It requires little imagination to see how corporate and industry interests may be laying the foundation to burrow advertisements into schools via trojan horses packaged as elusive "health standards" that would, should HB 165 pass, no longer be subject to your committee's input.

Please consider why a public hearing on health curriculum changes in the presence of our education committees is so threatening to special interests that there would be an attempt to exclude both your committee and the public hearings occurring before your committee from the health education equation.

Please oppose HB 165.

Thank you.

