



OHIO EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

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*The OEA will lead the way for continuous improvement of public education while advocating for members and the learners they serve.*

## **OHIO EDUCATION ASSOCIATION**

### **House Federalism and Interstate Relations Committee**

#### **Senate Bill 255**

#### **Opposition Testimony**

**November 26, 2018**

Good morning Chair Roegner, Ranking Member Leland and members of the committee. On behalf of the Ohio Education Association's (OEA) 125,000 members, I am Matthew Dotson with OEA Government Relations. Thank you for the opportunity to offer opposition testimony on Senate Bill 255.

OEA highlights the following primary concerns regarding Senate Bill 255:

- **The “occupational licensing boards” subject to expanded oversight authority by the Ohio General Assembly are not specifically listed in the bill.** Further, the bill's definition of the term “occupational licensing board” is ambiguous. Therefore, specific application of the bill is difficult to interpret without reference to other documents. An LSC Memorandum of April 24, 2018 (see attachment) provides a list of approximately 40 state occupational licensing boards, with approximately 500 occupational licenses/certificates/permits falling under the jurisdiction of these various boards.
- **Qualifications for educator licenses are already subject to consistent review and oversight by the Senate and House Education Committees (e.g. SB 216).** Other occupational licenses may also receive ongoing scrutiny and review by existing committees with jurisdictional oversight of the occupation. Under the educator license scenario, the practical effect of SB 255 would be the creation of new standing committees in the House and Senate to review the oversight work of pre-existing standing committees in the House and Senate. (Also, as a technical point of clarification, the “occupational licensing board” for educator licenses is the State Board of Education, not the Ohio Department of Education.)

In summary, while Senate Bill 255 may have worthwhile objectives in the abstract, the complicated mechanics and practical challenges of implementing the bill present a range of questions and challenges that deserve further consideration.