



Ohio Association of Public School Employees

American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO

OAPSE/AFSCME Local 4/AFL-CIO, 6805 Oak Creek Drive, Columbus, Ohio 43229-1591

(614)890-4770 • (800)786-2773 • (614)890-3540 FAX

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JoAnn Johnntony
State President

Lois Carson
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Sandra Wheeler
State Secretary

Proponent Testimony on HB 238

Chairman Hambley, Vice Chair Patton, Ranking Member Brown and members of the Civil Justice Committee, I am Randy Weston, Political Action and Legislative Affairs Director for the Ohio Association of Public School Employees and I'm here today to give proponent testimony on HB 238 the Whistle Blower Protection bill.

OAPSE represents 34,000 members state wide who work in our public schools, DD centers, head-starts and public libraries and HB 238 would provide them with the confidence and protection to report illegal activities they see or experience at their workplace without fear of retribution. Currently there exists a loophole in Ohio's whistleblower law due to a Franklin County Court of Appeals ruling back in 2013 that does not protect employees from retaliation by their bosses if they report noncriminal violations to Ohio's inspector general. We would like to commend and thank Representative Cera and Representative Scherer for introducing HB 238 to correct a loophole that was created by this ruling.

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