



**Representative Lisa Sobecki
House District 45**

**H.B. 334 Increase School Board Member Compensation and Enhance Ethic Requirements
September 28, 2021**

Chair Manning, Vice Chair Bird, Ranking Member Robinson, and fellow members of the House Primary and Secondary Education Committee: Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony today in support of House Bill 334.

House Bill 334 has three parts:

- Increases the maximum compensation amount for all three types of school boards to \$200 per meeting, and eliminates the yearly cap.
- Increases the training compensation amount to \$96 a day for trainings lasting 3 hours or fewer, and \$200 a day for trainings lasting over 3 hours.
- Requires each board member to complete ethics training within the first year of each elected or appointed term and for each subsequent term.

Under current Ohio law, school board member compensation for Traditional School Boards, Education Service Center Governing Boards (ESC), and Joint Vocational School Districts (JVS) are set by the local school boards and have a statutory maximum set by the state. The maximum compensation amount allowed for Traditional Boards and ESC is \$125 per meeting and capped at \$5000 per year. The maximum compensation amount allowed for JVS is \$125 per meeting. Additionally, ESC and JVS board members are eligible to receive mileage reimbursement for meeting attendance, and members of all three boards are able to be compensated for attendance of an approved training program equaling \$60 a day for a training lasting 3 hours or fewer and \$125 a day for a training lasting over 3 hours.ⁱ

School board Members do a great service to our communities and often are the most directly connected to constituents. House Bill 334 allows each board the flexibility to increase compensation for their members should they decide to do that based on their district's unique circumstances. Additionally, the bill assists school board members by ensuring they are aware of changing ethic laws and responsibilities by requiring ethics training once each term.

Thank for the opportunity to provide testimony and I am happy to answer any questions the committee may have.

ⁱ <https://codes.ohio.gov/ohio-revised-code/section-3313.12> ; <https://codes.ohio.gov/ohio-revised-code/section-3311.19>