

*Lisbon Exempted Village School District  
Office of the Superintendent  
317 North Market Street  
Lisbon, Ohio 44432*

**Joseph E. Siefke**  
Superintendent

**Phone: 330-424-7714**  
**Fax: 330-424-0135**

Written Testimony to the Senate Local Government Elections Committee  
March 21, 2022

RE: Opponent testimony regarding SB 260.

Dear Chairwoman Gavarone, Vice Chair O'Brien, Ranking Member Maharath, and members of the Senate Local Government and Elections Committee

First, I would like to introduce myself as Joe Siefke, Superintendent at Lisbon Exempted Village Schools in Lisbon, Ohio. [I also sit on the Board of Directors of Ohio Mid-Eastern Regional Education Service Agency (OME-RESA) as the Columbiana County Representative.]

Lisbon Exempted Village School District is a Cooperative Service Member of OME-RESA. OME-RESA Cooperative Services has benefited our district by making it so easy for the district to purchase new buses and secure a turf company for the district by selecting the cooperative service agreement that Omeresa offers. I can't say enough about how thankful I am that they were able to provide me, my BOE and the students of Lisbon with this expertise and guidance. Top notch for sure.

OME-RESA, in collaboration with other Ohio purchasing organizations, ensure that Ohio Bid Requirements are followed. This provides that all service contracts are

- a. Advertised locally, ensuring that Ohio businesses have an opportunity to bid;
  1. Adhere to bid requirements ensuring that Ohio school districts are protected from fraud and provided with the lowest services contract price possible and;
  2. Ensure that Administrative Fees remain in Ohio to be returned to members as rebates, or used to defray membership fees

I believe that SB 260 would undermine state bid requirements and create more ambiguity, confusion and risk of fraud for our school district. As a school Superintendent, I strongly and respectfully urge you not to move forward with this legislation.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide opponent testimony to SB 260.

Respectfully,

Joe Siefke

Superintendent Lisbon Exempted Village Schools