

**Ohio Senate Primary and Secondary
Education Committee
December 7, 2022
Sub. S.B. 178**

**Chairman Brenner, Vice-Chairman
Blessing, and Ranking Member Hicks-
Hudson, thank you for the opportunity to
provide testimony today in opposition to
Substitute Senate Bill 178. My name is
Carrie Ankney and I am a citizen of Senate
District 20 and State School Board District
6.**

**I have 2 main concerns. First, as of
Monday morning the full text of the bill
has not yet been made available online for
interested parties to review. I am
concerned that hearings are being held
without the ability for the citizens to read
over these proposed changes.**

While the full text of the bill has not yet been made available to the citizens of Ohio, the information supplied by the supporting documents and publicly streamed hearings informs my second concern. Namely the removal of the citizen's voice from the debate at the state level.

As an avid voter and citizen of Ohio, I strongly oppose removing responsibilities from elected officials and turning over the majority of educational decisions to a single cabinet level director, appointed and reporting solely to the Governor.

Our current political system is built on the contract between voter and representative. We vote, you represent our wishes in whatever office you hold. Regardless of an individual's level of participation in this process, the

representative is always available for feedback should an issue present itself about which they have strong opinions.

Regardless of your opinions about the current education system, removing the citizens of Ohio from the conversation by removing responsibilities from our elected officials is never appropriate.

Again, thank you for your time!

