

Opponent Testimony for SB 295
Senate Education Committee
December 8, 2024

Chairman Brenner, Vice Chair O'Brien, Ranking Member Ingram, and members of the Senate Education Committee,

Thank you for allowing me to submit written testimony. My name is Stacie Novelli, and I live in the Copley-Fairlawn City School district. I am the parent of a young child in elementary school and active volunteer with the PTA.

As a parent, I have serious concerns about Senate Bill 295 and its effects on our schools and Ohio students' education. I urge you not to allow this bill to pass out of committee at this time.

Here are some of my concerns about SB 295:

- This bill is over 100 pages long, and school board members, parents, and community members - let alone all legislators - have not had sufficient time to review it and its impacts.
- Local school closures are almost always bad for students and for communities; these decisions should be thoughtful, transparent, and consider community input, including that of students and parents.
- This bill goes against the principle of local control, removing local control from a community, parents, and locally elected school boards.

For these reasons, I ask that you stop this bill from passing out of committee. Thank you for your time.

Stacie Novelli