



The OEA will lead the way for continuous improvement of public education while advocating for members and the learners they serve.

House Bill 78: Proponent Testimony
Senate Insurance Committee
Wednesday, June 12, 2024

Chair Hackett, Vice Chair Lang, Ranking Member Craig, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Scott DiMauro. I am a high school government teacher from Worthington and have the honor of serving as President of the Ohio Education Association (OEA). On behalf of approximately 120,000 OEA members, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of House Bill 78.

Under current law, reemployed retirees in the STRS system are not permitted to run for election to the STRS Board of Trustees. As introduced, House Bill 78 would allow them to run for either an active member seat or a retiree member seat. OEA, other stakeholder groups, and the Ohio Retirement Study Council recommended that the bill be amended to allow reemployed retirees to run for the STRS Board but limit it to a retiree seat. This change was amended into the bill in the House Pension Committee. HB 78 unanimously passed the Ohio House (89-0).

OEA believes that reemployed retirees in the STRS system should be permitted to run for the STRS Board of Trustees. As with other Ohio public retirement systems, they should run as a retiree member of the Board; the Board election retirees are eligible to participate in as voters.

Chair Hackett, this concludes my testimony. If members of the committee have any questions, feel free to reach out to me or OEA Government Relations staff.

