

Columbus Office  
Vern Riffe Center  
77 S. High Street  
14th Floor  
Columbus, Ohio 43215-6111

(614) 644-6017  
[Rep43@ohiohouse.gov](mailto:Rep43@ohiohouse.gov)  
[www.ohiohouse.gov](http://www.ohiohouse.gov)



**Michele Grim**  
State Representative

43rd House District  
Toledo (p) | Ottawa Hills | Sylvania  
Township (p) | Washington Township  
(p)

Standing Committees  
Transportation (Ranking Member)  
Finance  
Health  
Rules and Reference  
Arts, Athletics, and Tourism

**Before the House Education Committee**

**House Bill 191 – Require school district, ESC teachers be paid at least  
\$50,000**

**Sponsor testimony provided by Representative Michele Grim**

**April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

Chair Fowler Arthur, Vice Chair Odioso, Ranking Member Robinson and all members of the House Education committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide sponsor testimony for House Bill 191, which would establish a base salary of \$50,000 for Ohio teachers. I would also like to thank my joint-sponsor Representative Joe Miller, who gave me the opportunity to sponsor this legislation with him.

In committee, and in Session, we discuss chronic absenteeism, empty desks, and struggling students. The truth of the matter is, no specific policy or subject matter is going to truly engage or change a student's life like a dedicated teacher will.

We cannot expect teachers to show up year after year, with more and more mandates from the state, with the same sluggish pay rates that are not meeting inflation. While teachers are often dedicated to their students because of their belief in service, compassion, and education that does not mean we can use this as justification for bare minimum pay. Passion for your work is great, but it does not pay the bills.

Additionally, teachers must participate in student teaching while getting their degrees, all unpaid. As they are entering the beginning of their careers, they are already in a much more vulnerable position than many others.

Teachers bring a truly immeasurable value to our communities, students, and our lives, long past graduation. It is long past time we increase their pay to attempt to match that value.

Chair Fowler Arthur, Vice Chair Odioso, Ranking Member Robinson and all members of the House Education committee, thank you so much again for the opportunity to share testimony. We would be happy to take any questions at this time.