



# Center FOR Christian Virtue

*Public Policy. Engagement. Education.*

Date: 11/17/25

To: Chair, Kristina D. Roegner  
Vice-Chair, Theresa Gavarone  
Ranking Member, Willis E. Blackshear, Jr.  
Senate General Government Committee

From: Ryan M. Folz  
Legislative Liaison  
Center for Christian Virtue

Re: Support for SB107

Chairwoman Roegner, Vice Chairwoman Gavarone, Ranking Member Blackshear, and esteemed members of the Senate General Government Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony in support of Senate Bill 107 and for your attention to this important matter. My name is Ryan Folz, and I serve as the Legislative Liaison for the Center for Christian Virtue, Ohio's largest Christian public policy organization.

As we all recognize, elections for boards of education have been inherently partisan for quite some time. One does not need to be a seasoned political observer to listen to a candidate running for one of these boards and recognize that they hold particular perspectives, opinions, and political leanings. By passing SB 107, parents will have more clarity about the school board candidates they are voting for, enabling them—and their communities—to make more informed decisions.

As of July 2025, ten states authorize partisan labels in school board elections, with several adopting this change in just the past three to four years.<sup>1</sup> Depending on who is elected, a district—and the students within it—can be significantly affected by the school board member's views and political priorities. Everything from funding to curriculum can and does shift based on the preferences of those elected. Parents can voice their concerns to their local school board, but those concerns may have

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<sup>1</sup> [https://ballotpedia.org/Party\\_labels\\_in\\_Ohio\\_school\\_board\\_elections#How\\_does\\_Ohio\\_compare\\_to\\_other\\_states?](https://ballotpedia.org/Party_labels_in_Ohio_school_board_elections#How_does_Ohio_compare_to_other_states?)



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little impact if there is a significant ideological divide. The most effective way to prevent this disconnect is to provide parents with the clarity they need through partisan labels. This system gives each voter the opportunity to choose the candidate—and the party—they believe will best represent and support their district. These informed decisions will not only shape their schools but strengthen their broader community.

In summary, by passing Senate Bill 107, our school districts and communities will benefit from giving voters—and especially parents—the transparency necessary to make well-informed decisions about who will lead their local schools. Partisan labels will empower voters, communities, and even candidates, ultimately leading to greater clarity and cohesion in these important elections.

Thank you again for the opportunity to provide testimony. I respectfully urge you to vote in favor of Senate Bill 107.