

Senate Finance Committee
Re: Repeal of ORC Section 3319.223, the Resident Educator Program
June 7, 2017

Good afternoon, Chairman Oelslager, Vice Chair Manning, Ranking Member Skindell, and members of the Senate Finance Committee.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony in regards to House Bill 49. My name is Mary Inmon-Teglovic, and I live in Huron County. With 36 plus years in education, I have been involved with mentoring and the assessment of beginning teachers since 1993 and I am strongly opposed to the amendment in House Bill 49 that would abolish the Resident Educator (RE) Program and the Resident Educator Summative Assessment (RESA).

I have a Bachelor's Degree from Ohio Northern University in mathematics and computer science, a Master's Degree in Curriculum and Instruction from Ashland University and Master's in Leadership from the University of Cincinnati. I have also served as a mentor and facilitator for the Resident Educator Program and as a district mentor and coordinator for our local mentoring program. During the 1990's, I served as a Praxis III assessor and trainer for 7 years and now I work with RESA.

As a Praxis III assessor, I would observe a teacher for 30-60 minutes and based on the rubrics determine the score. RESA is also based on rubrics, however, it is not a snapshot of a teacher's performance. RESA involves two video-taped lessons where a teacher demonstrates their knowledge of the content and the academic content standards, the prior knowledge of the students, student engagement, assessments used within the lesson, specific feedback given to the students and the teacher's reflection of the lesson. The teacher also submits assessments for a unit for three students. An explanation is given for the assessments based on the Ohio Academic Content Standards and the knowledge and background of the students in the class. In addition, the teacher provides an analysis of the assessment results and how the teacher can move the students forward based on the students' responses. The final task submitted is examples of communication between the teacher and parents and the teacher and peers. RESA is not a snapshot but demonstrates the resident educator's growth during their residency. RESA also provides a starting point for conversation between the REs, their facilitators and program coordinator.

Ohio Department of Education and Educopia have created multiple layers of support for the REs, mentors, facilitators, program coordinators and administrators. The support can be found in the documents provided on the OhioRESA website, webinars and Help Desk, which allows REs to ask questions via phone or email.

As a veteran educator, I am passionate about education and future of the profession I have been part of for more than 36 years. The resident educator four-year program provides the support and feedback needed to grow and learn. I urge you to continue the support for our new teachers in Ohio by removing the amendment from House Bill 49 to abolish the Resident Educator Program and the Resident Educator Summative Assessment.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,
Mary Inmon-Teglovic
Resident Educator Program Coordinator
mteglavic@ncoesc.org