



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

Ohio Education Association

Senate Judiciary Committee

Senate Bill 11 – OEA Proponent Testimony

May 22, 2019

Good morning Chair Eklund, Ranking Member Thomas, and members of the Senate Judiciary Committee. My name is Becky Higgins and I am the President of the Ohio Education Association (OEA). OEA supports Senate Bill 11.

This important legislation would prohibit discriminatory practices on the basis of “sexual orientation” and “gender identity and expression” in employment, housing or public accommodations. OEA is committed to the principle that all persons be given equal opportunity and that Ohio make it a priority to eliminate discriminatory practices in matters of recruitment, employment, promotion, compensation and retention.

Senate Bill 11 takes a significant step towards equal opportunity for all by providing fundamental protections from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity. The bill would join Ohio with numerous states and the vast majority of Fortune 500 companies that already prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation.

It is time to provide these basic protections from discrimination to all Ohioans by passing Senate Bill 11.

Thank you for your consideration.

