

Representative Lisa Sobecki & Representative Catherine Ingram

House Bill 588 Sponsor Testimony December 1, 2022

Chair Wilkin, Vice Chair Swearingen, Ranking Member Brown, and members of the House Government Oversight Committee: Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of House Bill 588. Although currently, the bill is simply "intent" language, redrawing the State Board of Education districts is an important issue that state lawmakers should address.

According to Ohio Revised Code 3301.01 (B) (2), the responsibility to draw the State Board of Education districts falls to the Governor if the State Legislature does not take action. The current State Board of Education districts were drawn by the Governor based off of State Senate districts which were not the same districts used during the election this year. Therefore, the State Board of Education districts need to be redrawn and we should not abdicate that responsibility to the Governor office. Ohioans voted overwhelming for fair Statehouse and Congressional districts. They deserve fair State Board of Education districts as well.

Members of the House Government Oversight Committee, thank you again for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of House Bill 588.