

47th House District

Portions of Butler County, including
Hamilton and Fairfield, Ross
Township and portions of Fairfield,
Hanover and St. Clair townships

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Sara P. Carruthers
Ohio State Representative

Committees

- Finance-
- Finance Subcommittee on Health & Human Services-
- Transportation-
- Behavioral Health- Homeland Security-

Commissions/Councils/Boards

- Early Childhood Advisory Council-
- Ohio Children's Trust Fund-
- Ohio Arts Council-
- Ohio Holocaust & Genocide Memorial & Education Commission-

House Bill 8 Sponsor Testimony Senate Education Committee December 5th, 2023

Chairman Brenner, Vice Chair O' Brien, Ranking Member Ingram and members of the Senate Education Committee, I am happy to join my joint sponsor, Representative Swearingen, to provide sponsor testimony for House Bill 8.

Representative Swearingen and I have named this bill the "Parents' Bill of Rights" because parents need to have a seat at the table when it comes to their children. I would like to give you some examples that perhaps explain this better. Your child is at a park with friends and falls and hurts themselves and an ambulance is called.... who do they call to find out your child's medical history or allergic reactions to medications? Somehow, I don't believe they would call the school to find out this information. Nor, by the way will the hospital bill the school.

Certainly, I would hope that parents would like to be notified prior to their children hearing or viewing sexually explicit conduct material or something depicting sexual conduct also. Naturally if the parents choose to have the children opt out, that should be fine. For those who think this isn't an issue, I would ask you to look up sexual conduct (Section 2907.01(A)) in the Ohio Revised Code.

Also, I would like to acknowledge that you will be considering a sub bill for house bill 8 and we have been working very closely with Chairman Brenner's office and have agreed upon the changes per the revised federal code. And I would ask for your support in a yes vote for the sub bill, thank you.

Chairman Brenner and members of the committee, thank you for your time, we would be happy to answer any questions.