

Resolution No. 478-2023

By Council Members Starr and Conwell

AN EMERGENCY RESOLUTION

Opposing House Bill 12, that renames the State Department of Education to the Department of Education and Workforce and revises and transfers most of its powers and duties to the newly-created, governor-appointed Director of Education and Workforce.

WHEREAS, H.B. 12 is the State House version of Senate Bill 1, which would remove most of the control over education policy from the State Board of Education (Board) and give it over to the governor, a move that could very well politicize education policy; and

WHEREAS, H.B. 12, renames the State Department of Education as the Department of Education and Workforce (DEW) and creates the position of the Director of Education and Workforce, who is appointed by the governor and would head the DEW; and

WHEREAS, H.B. 12 transfers most of the powers and duties of the State Board of Education and the Superintendent of Public Instruction to the DEW; and

WHEREAS, H.B. 12 would silence the public in that the new cabinet-level position means that administrative rules would be made without public input or input from the Board; and

WHEREAS, this Council believes that H.B. 12 amounts to a power-grab by the legislature in order to maintain conservative control over Board policies; and

WHEREAS, this resolution constitutes an emergency measure for the immediate preservation of public peace, property, health or safety, now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CLEVELAND:

Section 1. That this Council opposes House Bill 12, that renames the State Department of Education to the Department of Education and Workforce and revises and transfers most of its powers and duties to the newly-created, governor-appointed Director of Education and Workforce.

Section 2. That the Clerk of Council is directed to transmit copies of this resolution to Governor Mike DeWine and to all members of the Ohio General Assembly.

Section 3. That this resolution is hereby declared to be an emergency measure and, provided it receives the affirmative vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to Council, it shall take effect and be in force immediately upon its adoption and approval by the Mayor; otherwise it shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

RS:rns
4/17/2023

