

Resolution No. 205-2023

By Council Members Starr and Conwell

AN EMERGENCY RESOLUTION
Opposing Senate Bill 1, that transfers most powers and duties of the State Board of Education to the governor.

WHEREAS, the State Board of Education (Board) is a 19-member, non-partisan body with eleven elected members and eight members appointed by the governor; and

WHEREAS, in November 2021, Ohio voters elected three Democrats to the Board, thereby removing two Republicans (a third Republican withdrew) and increasing the number of Democrats on the Board to 7; and

WHEREAS, the winning Democrats were backed by the Ohio Democratic Party and Ohio's teachers unions ; and

WHEREAS, S.B. 1 would remove most of the control over education policy from the Board and give it over to the governor, a move that could very well politicize education policy; and

WHEREAS, S.B. 1 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 S.B. 1 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 Senate Bill 1, that transfers most powers and duties of the State Board of Education to the governor.

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
2/6/2023

