

Testimony for HB 2608  
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Adding additional members of any type to the OEIB is counter-productive. The bureaucracy is already out of control and too large. The issue is not the make-up of the committee, but rather failure to listen to stakeholders and then use that input to actually help shape some of the proposals that are put forward.

I participated on the COSA ELL workgroup. We gave input and then would be presented with the same proposal over and over again. Then another teacher and I who had previously been invited to meetings, were dropped from the notification list. This did not improve after contacting the administrator in charge of the committee. A meeting occurred last week that neither of us were invited to or informed about. I had asked for minutes of meetings that I have missed and have never been provided with this information. The room is full of "stakeholders" who would stand to gain money for their non-profits by implementing OEIB initiatives.

The Board should instead be changed to have a majority of the members who are current educators who can give insight as to how these initiatives are trickling down to the classroom level.

Thank you for your consideration.