

Submitter: Sherry Smith
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Education
Measure: HB4029

I urge you to vote NO on HB 4029. This bill once again gives ODE more power over local school boards in an effort to continuously erode a school board's ability to have local control of their districts. It forces them into training which ODE determines what the requirements for these learning plans will be. It is not in the best interest of students for ODE, as a centralized body, to have control over what types of training are deemed acceptable for our governing bodies. Local school districts are better situated and equipped to respond to the interest of their communities. School districts answer to their constituents, not ODE, as to how they want their districts governed and what they want their district to prioritize.

Not only will this bill give ODE the power to determine what areas school board members get trained in, they are also responsible for managing a directory of persons or organizations who qualify to provide professional learning and training. In addition, ODE will establish an advisory group to assist public education providers as well as determine the qualifications of who can provide this training (MUST CONSIDER EQUITY).

So, ODE gets to determine the content of professional learning/training AND to establish an advisory group AS WELL AS determine who qualifies to provide the training. Sounds like a full-circle takeover of training, or better said, propagandizing of school boards. Stop this continuous, hostile takeover of school boards and allow them to determine what training is needed to best meet the needs of their students and communities.

Again, I urge you to vote NO on HB4029.