

Submitter: Sharon Fox

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Education

Measure: SB1583

I am a former school board member and I oppose SB 1583. While I served on the school board I experienced the erosion of school board power, as power became more centralized within the administrative branch through legislation and administrative rules created by the ODE. I was often powerless to respond to my community around issues, even though we are elected and the ODE board is not. The ODE board are appointed by the governor and have no accountability to the general public, let alone local communities. This is another power play. Centralized power and control breeds corruption, bureaucracy and elitism. The ODE uses the local school board as their shield from accountability. The local board takes the shots from the community without the power to make any changes.

I urge you to vote no on SB 1583.