



TO: MEMBERS OF THE OHIO SENATE

- On behalf of the 20,000 members of the Ohio chapter of the National Federation of Independent Business in Ohio (NFIB), you are respectfully urged to **VOTE YES on Amended Substitute Senate Bill 1 (Reineke)**.
- Senate Bill 1 takes many of the current responsibilities from the State Board of Education (SBOE) and moves them to a new cabinet-level position at the newly named Ohio Department of Education and Workforce, under the auspices of the governor. This change will bring responsibility for budgetary and policy-making under the direction of the executive branch with oversight by the Ohio General Assembly, ensuring education accountability. Currently, the SBOE does not have the incentive to be responsive to the legislative branch.
- The new Department will have a dual focus on primary and secondary education, and preparing students for the workforce by establishing a significant emphasis on career tech. This second point is critical for our members who struggle with recent high school graduates and their readiness for the workforce. Engaging school children earlier in the education process and allowing them to explore multiple graduation paths will assist them in finding the path best suited for the individual, be it college or career.
- The Ohio Constitution requires the establishment of a SBOE but charges the General Assembly with prescribing the duties and powers. Senate Bill 1 does not eliminate the SBOE, nor their selection of a state superintendent. Senate Bill 1 simply changes the responsibilities of the SBOE.
- Unfortunately, the remediation rates for students are leaving too many behind. Students, parents, teachers, and taxpayers deserve a system with a clear line of accountability. Senate Bill 1 establishes this clear line. It is time to make this change in direction for education policy in Ohio. The status quo is not working.
- A recent ballot of our membership on Senate Bill 1 indicated 85% support for the legislation.
- NFIB may consider the vote on Amended Substitute Senate Bill 1 a **Key Small Business Vote** of the 135th General Assembly.

On behalf of Ohio's small-business community, NFIB respectfully urges you to VOTE YES to concur on Amended Substitute Senate Bill 1 (Reineke).