



# KEY VOTE ALERT

TO: Members of the Ohio Senate

FROM: Rick Carfagna, Senior Vice President

RE: Upcoming Floor Vote on Senate Bill 1

DATE: March 1, 2023

The Ohio Chamber of Commerce was a proud proponent of Senate Bill 178 last General Assembly and has designated Senate Bill 1 as a policy priority for this legislative cycle. Not only does our state face a talent gap, but students are not adequately prepared at the K-12 level to pursue post-secondary education or earn workforce credentials for in-demand fields.

Senate Bill 1 restructures both the Ohio Department of Education and State Board of Education to provide stronger emphasis on workforce skills and career readiness. We support Senate Bill 1 because greater importance must be placed on ensuring accountability for Ohio's education system and career readiness for Ohio's students, making for brighter futures for younger Ohioans and encouraging more of them to remain in and build their lives here in Ohio.

Finally, the Ohio Chamber recently unveiled its [Blueprint for Ohio's Economic Future](#), a constructive look at policy areas where Ohio can better capitalize on opportunities and position itself as a leader in the coming decade. Our "*Education and Workforce*" section acknowledges that "too many Ohioans lack the skills employers need" and that "workforce solutions must be bold and multi-faceted, designed to create growth for decades". Senate Bill 1 aligns with the Chamber's long-term policy vision for the state, and policymakers, in partnership with the business community, can make great strides with its passage to address Ohio's workforce challenges.

**The Ohio Chamber supports Senate Bill 1, and we urge you to vote "YES" on this bill. Please be aware that your vote on Senate Bill 1 will be reflected in the Ohio Chamber's General Assembly Voting Record.**

If you have any questions about this bill or the Ohio Chamber's position, please contact me at 614-629-0931 or [rcarfagna@ohiochamber.com](mailto:rcarfagna@ohiochamber.com).