

Good Government Process? Senate President Announced Passage of SB178 Before the Hearings on the Bill Were Held

SB178 is a weighty, far reaching bill that seriously overrules the will of the people. In 1953, Ohioans passed a constitutional amendment that transferred the Superintendent of Public Instruction and thus the state education agency from the governor's office to a State Board of Education.

Fast forward to the 2022 lame duck session of the 134th General Assembly. In a matter of a few days, SB178 went from introduction to passage in the Ohio Senate on December 7. In spite of serious opposition to the bill and a call for time to thoroughly vet the bill, it passed the Senate along party lines, 22 to 7.

The Senate president announced passage of the bill and the day it would be passed before the hearings began. Good government? That seems not to be the concern of the fine folks that comprise the Ohio Senate.