

1 **Higher Education Committee**

2 **Opposing of House Bill 512**

3

4 **Whereas**, the proposed House Bill 512 to consolidate the Ohio Department of  
5 Education, the Ohio Department of Higher Education, and the Department of  
6 Work Force Development;

7 **Whereas**, the control of the new agency would solely be under the power of the  
8 Executive Branch of the State of Ohio;

9 **Whereas**, the proposed consolidation would effectively eliminate the public's  
10 voice through the elected State Board of Education;

11 **Whereas**, with the inclusion of the Department of Work Force Development, the  
12 merger would potentially dilute the voice of Ohio Educators in state-wide  
13 curricular and education decisions;

14 **Be it resolved**, the Ohio Federation of Teachers moves to oppose House Bill 512  
15 consolidating the Ohio Department of Education, The Ohio Department of Higher  
16 Education, and the Department of Work Force Development.