



February 4, 2019

Pennsylvania House of Representatives

Re: House Bill 227

Dear Representative,

On behalf of the 4,500 elected officials who govern the commonwealth's public school districts, **we are writing to request your support for House Bill 227.** The legislation would amend the Pennsylvania Election Code to require 10 signatures on a petition to run for school director. Under the current law, the required number of signatures on a petition varies from district to district, and even seat to seat on the same school board.

PSBA applauds the work of the bill's sponsor, Representative Gabler, in recognizing the vast, statewide variation in petition requirements and supports his action to correct this problem. We appreciate his partnership with PSBA to create a level playing field for all candidates running for this office. We respectfully request that this simple reform be passed without amendment as it will serve to enhance candidacy in areas with numerous school board member vacancies.

We are happy to support this legislation and look forward to continuing to work with you on this and other important issues affecting public education this session. We appreciate your time and attention to this matter. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact us at (717) 506-2450 x3337.

Sincerely,

John M. Callahan
Chief Advocacy Officer