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State Representatives, District 23 and District 02
Sponsor Testimony for House Bill 747
November 14, 2018**

Before the House Armed Services, Veterans Affairs, and Homeland Security Committee

Good afternoon Chairman Johnson, Vice Chair Kick, Ranking Member Craig and members of the House Armed Services Committee. Thank you for the opportunity to provide sponsor testimony on House Bill 747. This bill seeks to establish the Ohio Cyber Reserve, which will be capable of deterring, mitigating, and remedying cyberattacks on our local governments, agencies, and community partners. HB 747 has the support of the Adjutant General, and companies such as JP Morgan Chase, Huntington Bank, AEP and others that are interested in having employees become part of the Ohio Cyber Reserve.

Prior to activation, all civilian participants will train together as cohesive teams and obtain all necessary certifications and clearances. While in training status, the Ohio Cyber Reserve will provide outreach, training, and educational opportunities to local partners. This is possible with the help of the Ohio Cyber Range, an online workforce development and training tool jointly developed by the Ohio Cyber Collaboration Committee (OC3) and the University of Cincinnati. Additionally, the Cyber Reserve Team will perform security assessments to eligible governmental entities and critical support to assist in identifying cyber vulnerabilities.

The Ohio Cyber Reserve will begin with 10 teams in five regions of the state. Each team will have 10 vetted and certified cyber-security specialists during training. After that, the size will be determined based on the need of the State and interest of the volunteers. The Ohio Cyber Reserve will use the same mechanism utilized by the Ohio National Guard to respond to natural disasters. The local mayor or elected official will contact the Governor's office if they are unable to handle a cyber-security threat with their resources alone. The Governor's office will assess the request and authorize the Ohio National Guard to activate the Cyber Reserve if needed.

When activated the Ohio Cyber Reserve will adhere to the standards established by the Ohio Code of Military Justice and will be provided appropriate and predetermined immunity with the exception of willful and wanton misconduct for the cadre volunteers. Modeled after the work of the Michigan and Wisconsin General Assemblies, this legislation will take into account Ohio's unique needs and capabilities, and it is broadly written to assist the Adjutant General in preventing cyberattacks against potential threats.

Thank you again for the opportunity to provide sponsor testimony on HB 747. We'd be happy to answer any questions you have at this time.