



June 25, 2018

Opponent Testimony HB 551

Chairman Young, Ranking Member Lepore-Hagan and Members of the House Economic Development Commerce and Labor Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony on HB 551 Minor Workers (Perales, Romanchuk)

The Construction Employers Association (CEA) is a non profit trade association with just over 130 contractor members and represents employers of approximately 8,000 skilled trades and construction management personnel in Northeast Ohio. CEA has represented hard working employers in the construction industry since its formation in 1916.

CEA opposes HB 551. The construction industry should be removed from the bill. Our workplaces are very technical and safety intensive. This bill will make workplaces less safe.

Our member companies spend hundreds of hours and thousands of dollars each year protecting their most valuable assets - THEIR EMPLOYEES. Safety is a constant focus for our members as our employees take multiple safety training classes and courses each year (many of which are mandated by the State.) This focus on safety leads us to have concerns about HB 551 as it allows students as young as 16 years old to work on construction sites. This diverges from Ohio law which wisely sets prohibitions for minors and avoids placing them at busy construction sites that can be dangerous.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony on this issue.

Tim Linville

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Tim Linville' in a cursive, flowing script.

Chief Executive Officer, CEA
950 Keynote Circle, Suite 10
Cleveland, Ohio 44131
P 216-398-9860