



Serving Your Needs.
Supporting Our Economy.

Ohio Association of Broadcasters
Ohio Automobile Dealers Association
Ohio Society of CPAs
Ohio State Bar Association
Ohio Trucking Association
Ohio Association for Justice
AIA Ohio – a Component of the
American Institute of Architects
American Council of Engineering
Companies–Ohio
American Society of Travel Agents
Associated General Contractors of Ohio
Cox Automotive
Delphi
General Motors
International Interior Design Association
Motion Picture Association of America
Ohio Association of Movers
Ohio Association of Realtors
Ohio Cable Telecommunications
Association
Ohio Contractors Association
Ohio Council of Retail Merchants
Ohio Lobbying Association
Ohio News Media Association
Ohio Parking Association
Ohio Petroleum Marketers &
Convenience Store Association
Ohio Veterinary Medical Association
Outdoor Advertising Association of Ohio
Travel Technology Association

April 5, 2017

The Honorable Ryan Smith
Chairman, House Finance Committee
Ohio House of Representatives
77 S. High Street, 13th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215

Dear Chairman Smith:

The Ohio Service Industry Coalition wants to once again thank you and the members of the House Finance Committee for your continued dedication to promoting sound tax policies in the State of Ohio.

Our Coalition, a group of businesses, trade associations, and professional organizations in industries affecting the day-to-day lives of many Ohioans, maintains its strong opposition to the sales tax rate increase and expansion to services in HB 49, the executive budget proposal.

Since the time of the executive budget proposal's unveiling in January, our Coalition has grown and now includes more than twenty-five organizations representing many different industries all across the state.

In 2016, the industries represented by Coalition members collectively had approximately 1 million employees, 60,000 establishments, and a total compensation of nearly \$40 billion.

We would like to reiterate our Coalition's strong agreement with legislative leaders who have expressed opposition to elements of tax shifting in HB 49, as introduced.

Our Coalition opposes raising the state sales tax rate and extending state and local sales taxes to services not already taxed under Ohio law. Higher sales tax rates and new taxes on targeted services will slow sales, hurt the state's competitiveness, and raise costs for individual and business consumers.

We appreciate the opportunity to share with you our concerns, and we look forward to working with you and the other members of the General Assembly to make Ohio a more business-friendly state.

Sincerely,

The Ohio Service Industry Coalition

cc: Speaker Rosenberger
All Members of the Ohio House of Representatives