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Email: [Rep50@OhioHouse.gov](mailto:Rep50@OhioHouse.gov)**Committees:***Vice Chair* of Energy and Natural Resources  
Agriculture & Rural Development  
Public Utilities**State Representative Christina M. Hagan**  
Ohio House District 50**House Bill 110****May 3, 2017**

Chairman Duffey, Vice Chair Antani, Ranking Member Sweeny and Members of the Ohio House Education Committee: it is with great pleasure and appreciation that I offer sponsor testimony on House Bill 110. HB 110 or “College Credit Plus Enrollment Option Expansion” is legislation that will provide a much needed and widely supported path to success for today’s youth and tomorrow’s workforce. I am pleased to be a product of the State’s Post Secondary Enrollment Option (now known as College Credit Plus) and to bring this legislation to you as a former member of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Manufacturing Taskforce, knowing this was a key recommendation from our work over the summer in 2012, my work through the last two General Assemblies and a compilation of committee hearings and suggestions from the State’s leading manufacturing professionals.

To achieve this goal, we do not need to reinvent the wheel. Students may already enroll in a dual college credit plus option, achieving college level credit and high school credit simultaneously. HB 110 simply expands this existing mechanism to allow for students to have an additional option: either enroll in the CCPO through a higher education institution, or enroll through a certified journeymen apprenticeship program gaining the skills they need to effectively compete and achieve the American dream.

I am blessed to be the daughter of a small business owner, a plumber and a former legislator who was never afraid to work in any environment, whether it be shaping policy in the Ohio House of Representatives or going on a mid-night call to service a furnace for a customer in need. I am also fortunate to have a mother who got me my very first job as a waitress at a very young age. While I am the youngest serving female in the History of the Ohio Legislature, I am also the youngest female in my immediate family and the only of my siblings not to own a home or have started a family sooner due to financial constraints.

Student loans and my college diploma, set me apart from my brothers, however I do not believe that they are any less successful and I would suggest they are achieving things that, under my circumstances, may take a decade longer to accomplish. Their work as paramedics, firefighters, plumbers, electricians, and taking the path of the skilled workforce has allowed them a seamless transition directly into the workforce without debt.

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In my research on the legislation, I heard from a world-renowned futurist at a NEOhio manufacturing exposition who estimated that in our children's lifetimes they will have to adapt and modify skill sets a minimum of 6 times in career changes to keep up with the ever growing technological and consumer driven instant gratification needs. They will do this with a combination of skilled work and micro-colleges to meet these quick demands, meaning that institutions that provide this training are simply invaluable to the success of our nation.

Important statistics to note as well are the immediately needed drivers for success to maintain our current manufacturing lead in Ohio and the nation. The number one being a high skilled flexible workforce. This is the talent we must help to cultivate. In manufacturing in particular, which provides a great deal of certified journeymen apprenticeship programs in Ohio, for every \$1 spent in this industry, another \$1.48 is added to our economy, this is the largest multiplier effect of any sector. The average wage of this industry in NEOhio is \$58,168, 43% higher than average for non-manufacturing industries. We have a responsibility to continuing our leadership in the United States by providing students with the skills and opportunities necessary and through skilled work education to guarantee that talent, innovation and productivity stay in Ohio.

House Bill 110 is short, simple and provides a path to great paying jobs. Statistics show that if we invest in our youth, our future, through internships, apprenticeships and co-ops they are more likely to reinvest in our communities and become happy, active and contributing Ohioans. I know that more than anything, the desire of the General Assembly and this committee is to retain and create good paying jobs and a higher quality of life for all Ohioans. I look forward to joining you in defying the odds and would be glad to answer any questions you might have at the conclusion of my co-sponsor's testimony.