

Ohio born and Cleveland resident, Sculptor, David L. Deming

Proponent and testimony of House Bill 135 designating June 12th as Superman Day in Ohio

Hello Chair Anielski, Vice Chair Hambley, Ranking Member Bishoff and members of the House State and Local Government Committee. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony on a bill that will codify one of Ohio's global contributions. House Bill 135 will designate June 12th as Superman Day in Ohio.

The story of the creation of the Superman Legend by Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster is also a story about two young high school kids from Glenville who against almost all odds were determined to make this character and story about our first super hero to not only come to life but to become the most important Icon of the comic and movie industries not just in America but across the entire world. Together they provided us all with a fitting symbol of the goodness of spirit of our nation and its people.

I have been fortunate to be asked to create a lasting sculptural monument for downtown Cleveland that should be installed in 2018 or 2019. The Monument will be The Siegel and Shuster Tribute Plaza featuring a larger than life flying stainless steel figure of Superman and life size bronzes of Jerry Siegel, Joe Shuster and Joanne Siegel, Jerry's wife who was a model for the Lois Lane character. As the Superman character and story evolution soon turns 80 years from its start, it is time for the achievements of the creators of this amazing world wide phenomenon to be honored in ways that bring them long lasting praise and recognition and in doing so reflects on the State of Ohio from which so many creative and successful individuals have flourished and impacted the world throughout its history. Declaring a Superman Day in Ohio is a great step towards accomplishing this recognition.

Again, thank you Chair Anielski and members of the House State and Local Government Committee