



Sponsor Testimony: HB 375 – Frank Watson Memorial Highway

Chairman Green, Vice Chair Greenspan and Ranking Member Sheehy: thank you for providing me with the opportunity to deliver sponsor testimony on behalf of Rep. Boccieri and myself for HB 375, a bill to designate a portion of State Route 680 near Youngstown State University as “Frank Watson Memorial Highway,” in honor of the late YSU Trustee who tirelessly devoted himself to improving the university and surrounding area.

Frank Watson was the driving force behind many academic and athletic initiatives at Youngstown State University through his roles as a member of the Foundation Board and Board of Trustees. He helped lead the fundraising campaign for the construction of Stambaugh Stadium, a treasured city center in the community, and served as president of the Youngstown Welding and Engineering Company, president of the Greater Youngstown Area of Commerce, and member of the Western Star Masonic Lodge. In 2003, Frank Watson was named Citizen of the Year for his dedication to YSU, and his hard work and civic-minded character will forever be remembered in the hearts and minds of Mahoning Valley residents.

To honor the tangible impact Watson had on our region and YSU and ensure his legacy can live on, we urge you to pass HB 375 to dedicate the portion of Interstate Route 680 between Market Street and Glenwood Avenue as "Frank Watson Memorial Highway."

Thank you for the opportunity to provide sponsor testimony and I welcome any questions you may have.