

WITNESS INFORMATION FORM

Please complete the Witness Information Form before testifying:

Date: 1/23/18

Name: Emilia Sykes, Representative

Are you representing: Yourself (Sponsor) Organization

Organization (If Applicable): _____

Position/Title: Minority Whip, State Representative

Address: 77 S. High St.

City: Columbus State: OH Zip: 43215

Best Contact Telephone: 614-466-3100 Email: rep34@ohiohouse.gov

Do you wish to be added to the committee notice email distribution list? Yes No

Business before the committee

Legislation (Bill/Resolution Number): HB 388

Specific Issue: Stan Hywet Hall & Gardens License Plate

Are you testifying as a: Proponent Opponent Interested Party

Will you have a written statement, visual aids, or other material to distribute? Yes No

(If yes, please send an electronic version of the documents, if possible, to the Chair's office prior to committee. You may also submit hard copies to the Chair's staff prior to committee.)

How much time will your testimony require? 5 minutes

Please provide a brief statement on your position:

Please be advised that this form and any materials (written or otherwise) submitted or presented to this committee are records that may be requested by the public and may be published online.



Representative Emilia Strong Sykes
34th Ohio House District

Chairman Green, Vice-Chairman Greenspan, Ranking Member Sheehy and fellow members of the Transportation and Public Safety Committee, thank you for the opportunity to present my sponsor testimony on House Bill 388.

House Bill 388 is more than just a license plate to the residents of Akron. HB 388 will be a sign of the many reasons why Stan Hywet Hall & Garden's is leading the State of Ohio and the Nation with its preserved historical accuracy and innovative community programs.

Stan Hywet Hall and Garden's was built by F.A. Seiberling and his wife Gertrude to sustain their growing family and rubber business, Goodyear Tire & Rubber. Making Akron not only the birthplace of champions, but the Rubber Capital of the world. Since the completion their home in 1915 the Seiberling's home has been the key location for many family business meetings, a stage for musicians and artists as well as the location where the idea of Alcoholics Anonymous was created. F.A. Seiberling contributed his

Committees:

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www.ohiohouse.gov
77 S. High Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215-6111

Contact Information:

Office: 614-466-3100
Toll-Free: 1-800-282-0253
Fax: 614-719-6968
Email: Rep34@ohiohouse.gov

time, innovative creations and leadership skills to many Akron community and charity organizations including the Buchtel College, now known as the University of Akron, Akron Chamber of Commerce, Akron Institute for the Blind, and the American Red Cross. Seiberling's tireless commitment to the City of Akron and Summit County can be seen by the expansion of the city's economic growth, through awards like City Livability, the All-American City and label of High Tech Haven.

Stan Hywet Hall and Gardens was gifted for the benefit of the community in 1957 by the Seiberling's children. Since then Stan Hywet Hall and Garden's have been recognized as the 6th largest home in the United States, with five historic buildings and 10 historic gardens spanning 70 acres. It is also the 34th district and City of Akron's first and largest National Historic Landmark and is accredited by the American Alliance of Museums. The facility is not only a historical landmark but holds open events for the community to enjoy, like holiday activities, adult and youth educational programs for throughout the year, vintage days and musical performances.

House Bill 388 will bring a new stream of funding for the legacy that is the Seiberling's and Stan Hywet Hall & Gardens. HB 388 will allow continued restoration as well as providing a safe and educational location for our community.

Thank you again for this opportunity to testify on House Bill 388, I will be happy to take questions upon the conclusion of Rep. Roegner's testimony.