



State Representative David Leland

Sponsor Testimony – House Resolution 355

Good morning Chairman Green, Vice Chairman Greenspan, Ranking Member Sheehy, and members of the Transportation and Public Safety Committee. Thank you for the opportunity to provide sponsor testimony on H.R. 355, a resolution to express support for strong Corporate Average Fuel Economy (CAFE) standards and clean car standards.

This resolution supports initiatives that promote job creation, protect public health, and works to keep Ohio an industry leader in manufacturing vehicles and automotive parts for years to come.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (“EPA”) and the U.S. Transportation Department have opened the public comment period on the rewriting of standards for greenhouse gas emissions for cars and light trucks for model years 2022-2025. The current CAFE and clean car standards maintain a strong industry program that will save consumers over a trillion dollars when fully implemented, cuts oil imports by over a third, and reduces carbon pollution to the equivalent of 85 million cars.

The auto industry has added more than 700,000 new retail and manufacturing jobs nationwide since 2009 with these pollution-reducing standards in place. In fact, auto manufacturers are building bigger vehicles to meet consumer demands all while making them more fuel-efficient. A new car meeting the 2025 carbon pollution requirements will save the owner nearly \$4,000 compared to today’s average new car under the existing standards.

Auto equipment manufacturers representing more than 1,000 companies with nearly one million workers have testified that when these standards were made permanent, they made long-term business and technology investments to meet these standards. Since 2012, these same companies have seen a 23 percent increase in employment.

Now is not the time to put our progress in reverse. It would be irresponsible to roll back standards that are reducing pollution, jumpstarting innovation and creating tens of thousands of good-paying jobs in communities across Ohio. Let’s keep these standards and keep our state and our Nation moving forward.

Thank you again for the opportunity to testify. I will be happy to answer any questions you may have.