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State Representative  
56<sup>th</sup> House District

**Transportation & Public Safety Committee**

House Bill 635 Testimony  
Representative Dan Ramos  
June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2018

Chairman Green, Vice Chairman Patton, Ranking Member Sheehy, and Members of the Transportation & Public Safety Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify on HB 635, legislation to permanently address the adaptation of school license plates.

Over the past years the Ohio House has adopted legislation to create license plate designs for various individual schools or districts. These plates are a unique opportunity to raise local funds while encouraging community pride. However, current law dictates that only the Ohio Legislature has purview to approve such plates. As the practice becomes more popular, the Ohio House will have to spend more time and resources on the review and approval of license plates.

This process can be made more efficient and more localized. I have introduced a solution which would cede this authority to local school districts. If a district wants a personalized license plate for the whole district or for individual high schools, they can pass a resolution on to the state registrar of motor vehicles, which allows them to have one. The district would be responsible for the design, as well as designating the contribution amount for use at the BMV, up to thirty dollars.

Many of these license plates have already been adopted by districts or, in the cases of larger districts, specific schools. To avoid undoing any work, this legislation allows approval on either the school or district level. Additional revenues raised would go to the school district for benefit of their students.

I believe this legislation could save taxpayers money and us time by making the license plate approval process more efficient and localized.

Thank you for your consideration, I welcome any questions on this bill.