



Ohio Mayors Alliance Proponent Testimony
HOUSE BILL 674

Ohio House Commerce and Labor Committee, June 3, 2020

Chair Manning, Vice Chair Dean, Ranking Member Lepore-Hagan and members of the House Commerce and Labor committee, on behalf of the Ohio Mayors Alliance, a bipartisan coalition of mayors in over two dozen of Ohio's largest cities and suburbs, I would like to submit this proponent testimony on Ohio House Bill 674, which makes several changes to Ohio's liquor laws, but I would like to speak specifically to the changes it would make to Designated Outdoor Refreshment Areas (DORAs).

House Bill 674 would streamline a city's ability to create a DORA, eliminate the population requirements that limit the number of DORAs in a city, and reduces the number of retail permit holders needed in the DORA from four to two.

Many of our cities utilize the DORA program to draw patrons to their downtown areas or entertainment districts. DORAs are an important component to economic development and bring in revenue for the locally owned restaurants and bars and surrounding businesses.

Additionally during this time, DORAs allow bars and restaurants to remain open and serving, while having additional, outdoor space for patrons to gather, making it safer for them and the staff during this pandemic that has taken a serious hit to our local economies.

Thank you to Representative Hillyer for working to craft this piece of legislation and to the members of the committee for considering this bill and supporting the DORA provisions. We are happy to help address any questions you may have.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Keary McCarthy", written over a white background.

Keary McCarthy
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