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TO: REP. RICK PERALES
COMPANY: STATE OF OHIO
FAX #: 614-719-3970
FROM: 937-253-3982

Message

RICK

SORRY FOR THE DELAY WITH GETTING PROXONENT TESTIMONY TO YOU.

THE FOLLOWING PAGE IS MY TESTIMONY.

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORT.

YOURS TRULY,

BIL BURNETT

937-677-1000

Please be advised that the information contained in this transmission is confidential in nature. Please deliver immediately to the individual indicated above. If you receive this fax in error, please notify us immediately by phone and return the original message to us at the above address by mail. Your cooperation is appreciated.
Attn: Rep. Rick Perales  
H.D. 73

I want to thank representative Rick Perales H.D. 73 and all legislators involved in the process of reviewing and considering this meaningful legislation.

My name is William W. Burnett from Dayton, Ohio and I wish to give a testimony to H.D.: My family background involves my grandfather, who was Director, Static and Propulsion Laboratories at Wright-Patterson AFB and worked closely with Orville Wright on various projects (Edgar R. Weaver). My father was Chief Financial Manager costing various “Top Secret” airplane projects (Robert V. Burnett Sr.). While at Wright-Patterson AFB as his career. Aviation was a topic of discussion in the house growing up throughout high school and college years. I was employed in mortgage banking, graphic arts and corporate sales and marketing.

My earlier years were influenced by my sixth grade teacher, Riece M. Keck who instructed John H. Glenn. During the “Centennial of Flight” 2003, Sen. Glenn stated that “perhaps the Wright Brothers were the first astronauts.” I grew up in the community of Oakwood, a suburb of Dayton, Ohio where the Wright Brothers home is located.

I was on a vacation in 1995, in the fall, going from Boston MA to Martha's Vineyard by ferry boat when a fellow traveler sitting next to me introduced himself. “Hi! I'm Zack Taylor (James Taylor is his Uncle), a music student going to the University of Oregon and visiting my parents and family on Martha's Vineyard”

I introduced myself, “I'm Bill Burnett from the “Birthplace of Aviation”. At this comment Zack replied that “he was also from the Carolinas”. I composed myself and corrected this bit of American History by stating that “the Wright Brothers were from Ohio... Dayton, Ohio”, the city where I'm from.

This innocent misunderstanding was the situation that was the turning point to encourage me, as a citizen, and take a stand and correct that misunderstanding the best way that I am able.

Making some rough sketches on the State seal, Ohio license plate, commemorative quarters and even Airmail stamps was the start. Painting a four foot diameter rendition of the State seal with all the details took six months to execute unveiling the painting on the steps of the Statehouse (1998), It's the principal of the true facts that I preserve and adds justifiable credence to Ohio's claim as the “Birthplace of aviation” State.

William W. Burnett
937-677-1000