



Representative Scott Wiggam, Chair
House State and Local Government Committee
77 S. High Street, 13th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215

Chair Wiggam and Members of the House State and Local Government Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit a letter in support of House Bill 133. Small Business Consultants of Ohio (SBCO) helps protect small businesses and non-profits from harmful regulations and champions policies that allow them to grow and thrive. HB 133 allows military members or their spouses to be granted a temporary occupational license in Ohio if they held a valid license in another state and were transferred here or moved as a result of active duty orders.

It is difficult enough for military families to be uprooted several times during their careers; let's not also continue to disrupt their ability to earn income by moving to Ohio. Additionally, allowing new talented workers to have reciprocity with their occupational licenses may help reduce the number of unfilled jobs that employers claim they are experiencing. In general, members of the military are disciplined workers and have a high level of work ethic, so it is encouraging that Ohio could soon add them to our workforce, or even allow them to start businesses in our state.

Finally, HB 133 places very little burden on state agencies, boards and commissions. According to the language of the bill, the licensing agency must simply verify that the military member or spouse has a license in good standing with another state. Then, the agency is able to charge a reasonable fee for the temporary license.

Chair Wiggam, thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony in support of HB 133. If you or any committee members should have questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brandon S. Ogden".

Brandon S. Ogden
President, Small Business Consultants of Ohio, LLC
614-999-8773