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Tavia Galonski State Representative

Chairman Green, Vice Chairman McClain, Ranking Member Sheehy, and my colleagues of the Transportation and Public Safety Committee, I appreciate the opportunity to be able to offer sponsor testimony on House Bill 173.

House Bill 173 aims to recognize an impactful program that is essential to growing our youth of Ohio. The All- American Soap Box Derby began in 1934 in Akron and has been a deep part of the city's history since. It is extremely important to give our youth opportunities like this program to allow them to expand their education outside of the classroom. Giving kids with an interest in STEM the chance to challenge themselves is valuable to their growth as a student and their future.

What better way to recognize this important program than by designating the All-American Soap Box Derby as the official state gravity racing program. We must acknowledge our youth and our future innovators who show an interest in STEM. By designating the All-American Soap Box Derby as the official state gravity racing program, students across the state will be exposed to the application of STEM projects at a young age. Let us give more opportunities to our young, and recognize all the children who are interested in STEM and who could be the next inventors, engineers, or scientists.

Chairman Green, Vice Chairman McClain, Ranking Member Sheehy, and my fellow colleagues, thank you for letting me speak today. I am open for questions in regards to House Bill 173.