

June 18, 2019
Transportation & Public Safety Committee

House Bill 77 Testimony

Chairman Green, Vice-Chair McClain, Ranking Member Sheehy, and Transportation & Public Safety Committee Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony on the Legalize Window Tinting Act. My name is Wendy Rinehart and I am the executive director of the Ohio Independent Automobile Dealers Association, representing the used car dealers throughout the state of Ohio. Our member dealers support House Bill 77.

By only allowing a 50% light transmittance on front driver-side windows, it effectively makes tinting illegal in Ohio. House Bill 77 provides for 30% light transmittance on driver-side windows, the same standard used in our boarder states of Indiana, Kentucky, and West Virginia. In order for Ohio to stay competitive, our state law should align with the majority of other states that provide the freedom to tint windows. If Ohio fails to adjust the current regulatory framework and come into line with its neighboring states, Ohio will lose dollars to out-of-state businesses who are able to sell vehicles with uniformly tinted windows.

House Bill 77 would reduce the burden and cost of used automobiles to consumers that are purchased in neighboring states which allow uniformly tinted windows. The current window tint regulation is unacceptable and unfair to Ohioans. The current mandate creates roadblocks for our dealers, by effectively restricting the sale of in-demand products that are legal in other states. By changing the current law, Ohio will encourage economic growth, reduce consumer costs, support small business, and further liberty.

I thank the committee for this opportunity to listen to the automobile industry's perspective on this issue.

Sincerely,

Wendy Rinehart
Executive Director
Ohio Independent Automobile Dealers Association