Written Proponent Testimony – Substitute SB 235
House Finance Committee
December 6, 2016

Chair Smith and members of the House Finance Committee: Thank you for your continued work on Substitute (Sub) SB 235.

The Cincinnati USA Regional Chamber maintains its strong position of support and encourages the passage of Sub SB 235. Sub SB 235 maintains the overall goal of this legislation, which is to add an additional economic development tool in the tool box, while assuring that it is responsibly used in a local setting. Sub SB 235 will further economic development efforts in the state by removing a disincentive to private development and providing for a new and innovative way to increase private development by lowering the *initial* cost burden. Additionally, Sub SB 235 addresses the concerns raised by our local government partners by requiring the property owner to apply to and obtain approval from the local jurisdiction for the exemption.

As the global market for business continues to strengthen, the role of government in enacting creative policies that encourage new growth and expansion is imperative in keeping Ohio relevant as a great place for business. The Chamber thanks you for working with us on this important policy and we look forward to working together on future initiatives.

Please contact Jason Kershner, the Chamber's VP of Government Affairs, with questions or for more information.

Thank you.