



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
REPRESENTATIVE JOHN BECKER
HOUSE DISTRICT 65

Sponsor Testimony – HB 708

November 28, 2018

Aging and Long Term Care Committee

Good afternoon Chairman Arndt, Vice Chair Pelanda, Ranking Member Howse, and members of the committee.

Thank you for allowing me to appear before you today to offer sponsor testimony for House Bill 708. This is the Double Dipper bill also known as Double Dippers Inappropriately Privileged (DDIP).

As you may know, a “double dipper” is the common term used for public sector employees who “retire” and then are “re-hired,” therefore collecting one or more state retirement payments in addition to a simultaneous state salary. This practice is common for Ohio’s public sector retirees but rare in the private sector. To be clear, I do not blame double dippers for taking advantage of what the law allows. I blame the law for allowing it to occur.

HB 708 does not affect current retirees or survivor benefits. New retirees will be able to choose to retire from the public sector, with their pension(s), or continue to work and draw a salary. Doing both, at the same time, will no longer be an option. However, they will continue to be free to collect their state pension(s) and simultaneously work in the federal or private sector. This will strengthen Ohio’s retirement systems and eliminate a privilege that private-sector Ohioans do not have.

Mr. Chairman, thank you for your consideration. This concludes my sponsor testimony.

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