

## **TESTIMONY OF NICHOLE COLEMAN—SUB. H.B. 49**

My name is Nichole Coleman. I have been the Executive Director and County Veterans Service Officer for the Hancock County Veterans Service Commission since December 2011. I served as a security specialist in the United States Air Force for three years and then in public relations for four years. My husband is a 10-year Air Force veteran; my father served in Vietnam with the Army and my grandfathers served in the Korean War and World War II. I am a Desert Storm veteran and also served in Bosnia.

I am the President for the Ohio State Association of County Veterans Service Officers. I also serve on the Board of Directors for the National Association of County Veterans Service Officers.

I am here to advocate my association's position on Substitute House Bill 49 from the perspective of a county veterans service officer, and the Ohio State Association of County Veterans Service Commissioners shares our view that the Finance Committee has insured the efficient delivery of services and benefits to Ohio's veterans and their families will continue without interruption, and we strongly support Substitute House Bill 49. We believe that you have heard veterans' concerns, and on their behalf, we sincerely appreciate your prompt and thoughtful consideration in amending the original bill's language as it related to R.C. Sec. 5901.06 and .07.

I thank you for your time and attention to this important matter.