



Sponsor Testimony

Representatives Dave Greenspan and Scott Ryan

House Bill 415

Dear Chair Anielski, Vice-Chair Hambley, Ranking Member Holmes and members of the State and Local Government committee. Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to provide testimony on House Bill 415.

What is the issue or problem we hope to address with this legislation?

Simply speaking – this bill seeks to provide economic support to our local partners, – Ohio’s Counties, Villages, Cities and Townships, for ongoing public safety, economic development and overall quality of life issues – of providing funding for roads. We all know, as either serving in a local government capacity or more simply by listening to our local partners – that they all have road issues - repairs, maintenance and improving valuable infrastructure needs. We know this.

So how does this legislation help?

House Bill 415 seeks to provide additional funding to our local by directly distributing 50% of state surplus revenue into a newly created fund - the Local Government Road Improvement Fund. Disbursements from this fund shall be directly distributed to our local partners for road improvement and repairs in an equitable a fair manner.

Funds shall be distributed to our local partners based on a formula that divides each local partners lane miles by the total lane miles of all participating local partners multiplied by 50 percent of the surplus.

Additionally – this legislation adds a provision that is intended to provide relative reliability, predictability and sustainability for our local partners in relations to budgeting, forecasting and for providing general guidance as to state local government funding. Basically, this bill provides that no General Assembly shall reduce the funds credited to a local government fund to an amount that is less than the current 1.66% from the General Revenue Fund. This is critical, that we provide the basic “floor” funding to our local partner’s – it is my hope and desire that we exceed this minimum, but at least we set the framework for financial stability.

This is important legislation because it sets a value proposition that we understand and support our local partners and we also recognize the importance of roads and related infrastructure and we are committed to providing an equitable method for supporting these important assets.

Thank you your consideration of the bill and we are available for your questions.