



PO Box 340257 • Columbus, Ohio • 43234-0257

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December 11th, 2017

The Honorable Marlene Anielski, Chair
State and Local Government Committee
Ohio House of Representatives
77 South High Street
12th Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Dear Chairwoman Anielski and members of the House State and Local Government Committee—

On behalf of the members of the Ohio Aviation Association, I am writing you today to offer support for House Bill 370, a bill to add a depiction of the Wright Flyer to the Great Seal of the State of Ohio.

The Ohio Aviation Association has worked for over fifty years to advance aerospace and aviation in Ohio, while also promoting Ohio's rich history pertaining to these industries. Ohio is the birthplace of aviation as the Wright Brothers first piloted an airplane in 1903 and became the pioneers of aviation as we know it. It is time that we further recognize the great accomplishments of the Wright Brothers and be proud that Ohio is the birthplace of aviation.

As board President of the Ohio Aviation Association I would like to urge the passage of House Bill 370. With Ohio being the birthplace of aviation, and an epicenter for innovation in aviation it is important to recognize those achievements and add the depiction of the Wright Flyer first piloted airplane to Ohio's Coat of Arms and the Great Seal of the State of Ohio. As a State, we will be remembering our rich history while also investing in our future as we recognize the accomplishments of the Wright Brothers and Ohio as the birthplace of aviation.

The Ohio Aviation Association supports efforts to add to the state's Coat of Arms and to the Great Seal of the State of Ohio a representation of the Wright Brothers' first piloted airplane, and we thank Representative Perales for his leadership. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Best regards,

Tory Richardson
President
Ohio Aviation Association