

## State Representative Bill Patmon Sponsor Testimony HB 150 May 17, 2017

Hello Chairman Green, Vice Chair Greenspan, Ranking Member Sheehy and members of the House Transportation and Public Safety Committee. Thank you for the opportunity to present Sponsor Testimony on a bill that will create a hearing impaired license plate for individuals that wish to utilize the option. Once again, this is a voluntary option like other specialty license plates.

Currently in Ohio, individuals can apply for a hearing impaired I.D. card through the Bureau of Motor Vehicles by filling out a form that requires certification from their doctor. These cards are helpful for citizens to communicate their needs in the event of an accident. Adding the option of hearing impaired license plates will allow police officers to know immediately what additional protocols to follow and will give hearing impaired individuals, who often worry about traffic stops, more peace of mind.

Several states including Illinois, Arizona, Louisiana, Pennsylvania, Mississippi, Tennessee, and Oklahoma offer these plates to their citizens.

Again, thank you Chairman Green and members of the House Transportation and Public Safety Committee.