

To:

Chairman Doug Green

Vice Chairman Dave Greenspan

Ranking Member Michael Sheehy

We write today in strong support of House Bill 83, legislation that would change the name of the Opportunity Corridor in Cleveland, Ohio to the "*Carl and Louis Stokes Opportunity Corridor*". As you know, HB 83 is currently under consideration in your Transportation and Public Safety Committee.

Our father's, Louis and Carl Stokes, would have been honored to have this planned boulevard that will run from the intersections of East 55th Street to 105th Street and Chester Avenue named after them, posthumously. For decades, the former Cleveland Congressman and Mayor worked tirelessly to advance business and economic development opportunities in their beloved Northeast Ohio hometown. This proposed street corridor renaming would be a visual tribute to their longstanding goals and an inspirational incentive to future generations of entrepreneurs.

We thank and congratulate State Representative Stephanie Howse and State Representative Kent Smith for introducing and leading this bill through the Ohio Legislature. Both representatives has worked closely with our family to make this dream become a reality.

Thank you kindly for your careful consideration of HB 83 and we await what we hope will be your positive support of this legislation before your esteem committee.

If we can be of further help, please don't hesitate to ask.

Sincerely,

Louis "Chuck" and Cordell E. Stokes