



**House Ways and Means Committee
HB 641
June 26, 2018**

Chairman Schaffer, Vice Chair Scherer, Ranking Member Rogers and members of the House Ways and Means Committee, thank you for considering my written testimony in support of HB 641. My name is Thomas Balzer and I am the President and CEO of the Ohio Trucking Association. Collectively, we represent over 1,000 trucking, moving, logistics, warehouse companies and allied vendor members.

HB 641 would make Ohio's tax policy more competitive with surrounding states by exempting forklifts that are purchased by an interstate logistics company from sales and use tax. As Ohio attempts to attract logistics companies and distribution centers, its lawmakers must eliminate burdensome tax policies that place Ohio-based businesses at a competitive disadvantage.

On behalf of the Ohio Trucking Association I would like to thank Rep. Antani for introducing this business-friendly legislation and would urge the committee's support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tom 16".

Thomas A. Balzer, CAE
President and CEO
Ohio Trucking Association