Chairwoman Lehner, Vice Chair Huffman, Ranking Member Sykes and members of the Senate Education Committee: thank you for allowing me the opportunity to provide sponsor testimony on House Bill 477.

The genesis of this bill came from our caucus staff who graciously spent time sifting through Chapter 33 of the Ohio Revised Code to find outdated and expired law relating to education. As a result, we were able to find 14 sections that could comfortably be repealed and 6 sections that would need to be amended because of those repeals.

Here are some examples of the laws being repealed and their explanation under H.B. 477:

1. Section 3301.21, regarding state action for the education leadership fund

The reasoning behind this - This is expired law that was originally enacted in 2005. The federal funds for this program no longer exist. The section created the State Action for Education Leadership Fund through the State Treasury that was awarded money from the Wallace Foundation.

1. Section 3301.25, which discusses Secondary school libraries receiving “material” regarding veterans

This is expired law that was originally enacted in 2000. The section required ODE to distribute VHS copies of the Ohio Veterans Dedication Plaza ceremony and distribute the book *Letters Home: The Letters of the Ohio Veterans Plaza* and other veteran-related materials. (Policy staff has indicated to me that a section like this would now be written in a bill as an “uncodified” section).

1. My favorite section - 3313.206 regarding the McGruff House Symbol

This is expired law that no longer has any federal funds associated with it. This relates to the McGruff the Crime Dog initiative, which ended in February 2012, due to the decline in McGruff Houses and tightened budgets at the state and federal level. We did inform the Ohio Department of Public Safety about this provision and they agreed this was expired law.

We have worked with the appropriate agencies and stakeholders affected by this bill to make sure these sections can be repealed without issue. I have also attached the list of remaining sections under the bill.

As policymakers, we should always continue to strive to not only make commonsense laws, but also research and see what laws are currently on the books and whether they still have merit being there.

The late Rep. Terry Blair said on many occasions, “We could spend an entire GA cleaning up the Revised Code because it is so…darn…big.”

Again, thank you for your time today. I would be happy to answer any questions.