



March 21, 2018

Chairman William Coley II
Senate Government Oversight and Reform Committee
1 Capitol Square, 1st Floor
Columbus, OH 43215

Chairman Coley and members of the Senate Government Oversight and Reform Committee:

On behalf of small business owners from around the state, I would like to take this opportunity to express our support for Senate Bill 221. If enacted, SB 221 would provide the legislature with additional rule-making oversight. Through the creation of the Common Sense Initiative Office (CSIO) and the great work the staff has undertaken, Ohio has become more business friendly but this legislation adds another layer to the progress already made.

Unfortunately, small businesses do not have the time in which to navigate the rule-making process and often only recognize that a rule is harmful to their business once it has been promulgated and enforced by an agency. A key provision of SB 221 is allowing for an expedited five-year rule review if a business or stakeholder indicates that it is adversely impacting their business. Currently, there are hundreds of agency rules that are behind on their five-year reviews. This means that businesses continue to be bound by these potentially outdated rules and have virtually no recourse or defense from the harmful effects.

Prior to being elected to the President of the Senate, Senator Obhof indicated his desire to reduce agency rules and regulations. After taking office, President Obhof asked members to brainstorm rules and regulations that could be eliminated in hopes of shrinking the size of the Ohio Administrative Code (OAC). We believe that SB 221 will be a long-term means of contributing to President Obhof's vision. Chairman Coley, thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony in support of SB 221. If you or any committee members should have questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Brandon S. Ogden".

Brandon S. Ogden
President, Small Business Consultants of Ohio, LLC
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