

	<p><b>HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES AND MEDICAID COMMITTEE</b></p>
	<p>Witness Form</p>

Today's Date December 5, 2017

Name: Amy Zahora, President, Miami Valley Restaurant Association

Address: 2207 Cybelle Ct, Miamisburg, OH 45342

Telephone: 937-461-6872

Organization Representing: Self

Testifying on Bill Number: Senate Bill 182

Testimony:     Verbal             Written             Both

Testifying As:     Proponent             Opponent             Interested Party

Are you a Registered Lobbyist?     Yes             No

Special Requests: n/a

Greetings and thank you for the opportunity to express my opinions about Senate Bill 182 regarding dogs on restaurant patios. While I am the president of Miami Valley Restaurant Association (MVRA) and director of Restaurant Raiders – an entity dedicated to supporting the growth and prosperity of food service businesses in southwest Ohio. This testimony reflects my personal views on this important issue.

I feel that the restaurant owners should have the right to decide if they would like to have a dog-friendly patio. This would open up numerous positive business opportunities for some restaurants in the area. Dog owners like to take their pets with them places. Being able to take them to their favorite restaurant patio is a nice time out. Many dog owners work all day and get home and don't want to leave their pets again. This dynamic will often drive their decision to "go out" or not. Having dog-friendly patios would be a nice addition to the Miami Valley. Not all restaurants will opt for a dog friendly patio, but let the restaurant decide.