



SB 68 Proponent Testimony House Civil Justice Committee

Chairman Lang, Vice Chair Plummer, Ranking Member Leland and members of the House Civil Justice Committee, my name is Tom Balzer and I am the President and CEO of the Ohio Trucking Association (OTA), representing over 1,000 trucking, moving, logistics and warehouse companies and allied vendor members. Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to express our support for the provision that was added to the substitute version of SB 68 that would help alleviate administrative burdens by allowing Ohioans to renew their driver licenses every eight years as opposed to every four years.

OTA testified in support of this innovative idea before the House Transportation and Public Safety Committee during its hearing process on HB 372. By passing this provision, Ohio will be joining two dozen other states that allow citizens to renew their licenses every eight years. Allowing an eight-year renewal process is also compliant with federal standards.¹ Extending the license renewal requirements will significantly reduce administrative challenges facing Ohio's CDL holders. This will save drivers valuable time that otherwise could be used earning a living and building the economy by transporting goods for local businesses.

I would like to thank Rep. Merrin for his work on this effort and for engaging OTA and other stakeholders during the development of the policy. OTA supports this commonsense proposal and urges this committee's support.

Sincerely,

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

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

¹ 49 CFR Part 383.73 - https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/retrieveECFR?gp=1&ty=HTML&h=L&mc=true&=PART&n=pt49.5.383#se49.5.383_173