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State Representative Tom Brinkman, Jr.

27th House District of Ohio

Chairman Oelslager, Chairman Callender, Vice Chair Scherer, Ranking Member Cera, and Members of the Finance Committee, thank you for the opportunity to speak on House Bill 116.

As this bill and its language is simple, my comments will be brief. This legislation would appropriate \$4,500,000 to the Department of Transportation in order to study the Cincinnati Eastern Bypass Project and review the work which was previously done by the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet relative to the Brent Spence Bridge Project.

Recently, the need for these funds has only increased as on November 11th of this year an accident involving two trucks created a fire which effectively shut down the Brent Spence Bridge, pushing the thousands of vehicles which this bridges typically carries every day elsewhere.

As this area remains an important route for so many Ohioans in the Cincinnati area and beyond, I appreciate your consideration on this legislation and would be happy to answer any questions.