



## OHIO TOWNSHIP ASSOCIATION

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March 11, 2019

The Honorable William Coley II, Chair  
Government Oversight & Reform Committee  
Ohio Senate  
1 Capital Square, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Columbus, OH 43215

Re: SB 52 Cyber Security

Dear Chairman Coley:

On behalf of the Ohio Township Association (OTA), I am writing to express our support for Senate Bill 52, which would create the civilian cyber security reserve forces.

Cyber security is a growing problem in this country as we become increasingly reliant on internet-based systems and programs. This is especially true for townships – many of which lack the financial resources to deal with a cyber-attack.

Senate Bill 52 is a proactive approach to our cyber security needs that would provide a mechanism to assist local governments and other entities in the event of a cyber-attack, ultimately keeping our constituents' information safe. The bill couples the expertise of civilian cyber security experts with a service to the state in catastrophic events.

A coordinated cyber-attack is not something any township wants to imagine handling, but it's a potential reality. And the reality is that many townships may be unprepared to deal with this threat. Senate Bill 52 is an important step in equipping townships before a crisis occurs.

The OTA continues to support the concepts in Senate Bill 52 and encourages your favorable support. Thank you for your consideration of our position. Should you have any questions or concerns about our position, please do not hesitate to contact me or Marisa Myers, OTA Director of Governmental Affairs, at 614.863.0045.

Sincerely,

Matthew J. DeTemple  
Executive Director

MJD:mm

cc: Sen. Theresa Gavarone