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Testimony of the Ohio State Bar Association in Support of House Bill 272  
Senate Judiciary Committee  
Todd Book, Esq.  
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Chair Eklund, Vice Chair Manning, Ranking Member Thomas, and members of the Senate Judiciary Committee. On behalf of the Ohio State Bar Association, I am pleased to offer proponent testimony in support of House Bill 272.

The Ohio State Bar Association supports House Bill 272, the expansion of Ohio’s long arm statute. For the lawyers on the committee, this bill brings back memories (probably not fond) of law school, the idea of “minimum contacts” to justify court jurisdiction and the *International Shoe* case. A state’s long arm statute determines the extent to which out-of-state actors can be subject to state court jurisdiction.

Most states want their citizens and businesses to be able to bring their legal actions in their own state court systems. Accordingly, most states have expanded their long arm statute to the fullest extent allowed by the Constitutions of the state and the federal government. Ohio needlessly restricts its long arm statute; thereby limiting the rights of Ohio citizens and businesses to have their cases litigated in Ohio.

House Bill 272 would extend Ohio’s court jurisdiction so that Ohio would be exercising its full sovereignty regarding court jurisdiction. The OSBA’s Board of Governors has reviewed House Bill 272 and recommends its adoption.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify and I am available to answer questions.