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Ohio Senate  
32<sup>nd</sup> District



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33<sup>rd</sup> District

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**Sponsor Testimony: Senate Bill 257**  
**Senate Ways and Means Committee**  
**February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

Chair Roegner, Vice Chair Blessing, Ranking Member Williams, and members of the Senate Ways and Means Committee, thank you for allowing us to present sponsor testimony to you today on Senate Bill (SB) 257, legislation which would incentivize the purchase of electric vehicles (EVs) in Ohio.

Considering the rapid advances in vehicle electrification and battery technology over the past several years, it is becoming ever clearer that the future of automobiles is all-electric. Well-established companies are spending considerable resources in the development and creation of new EVs, and innovative startups in our own state, such as Lordstown Motors, are investing millions in the EVs of the future.

Because of this, we see an opportunity – especially in our districts in the Mahoning Valley – to make Ohio the EV capital of the country. Not only does our state possess the skilled workforce necessary for such an endeavor, but also the necessary infrastructure and business relationships.

What our bill does is kick-start the process of switching over to EVs in Ohio by incentivizing their purchase. Should SB 257 be signed into law, it would create a \$500 sales tax credit for the purchase of one EV for personal use, a \$1,000 sales tax credit for each of up to 10 vehicles for commercial use, and a \$1,500 tax credit for the construction of either commercial or personal use vehicle charging stations. Again, however, this legislation is not intended to last into perpetuity, but only kick-start Ohio's emergence in the world of EVs, and the incentives will sunset after five years.

While this bill is just one step in our journey toward increasing Ohio's profile in the world of EVs, we feel it is an important one. Incentivizing individuals and fleet owners in our state to convert to EVs signals that Ohio is serious about an all-electric future, something which could prove instrumental in attracting more new EV business to our state. This is in addition to creating increased demand for EVs and other products associated with EVs (batteries, charging stations, etc.), which could correspond to more jobs for Ohio's already highly-skilled manufacturing workforce to fill.

Chair Roegner, and members of the committee, please join us as we seek to make Ohio the electric vehicle capital of the country. Our state, and particularly our area of it, is in the midst of a true transformation. Working across party lines, we can take advantage of this rare opportunity to deliver results, making Ohio a leader in the technologies of the future.

Thank you again for allowing Senator Rulli and me to present sponsor testimony on SB 257 to you today. We would be more than happy to answer any questions you may have at this time.