



WRITTEN TESTIMONY TO THE HOUSE COMMERCE AND LABOR COMMITTEE

INTERESTED PARTY TESTIMONY

HB 172

April 21, 2021

Chair Stein, Vice Chair Johnson, Ranking Member Lepore-Hagan and members of the House Commerce and Labor Committee, thank you for the opportunity to write as an interested party for HB 172.

This legislation would allow consumers to purchase and use consumer grade fireworks while respecting the rights of municipal Home Rule authority to restrict or ban the use of fireworks within a municipality's jurisdiction.

Under the bill, a municipality would be able to restrict the dates and times that an individual may discharge consumer grade fireworks, or they could impose a total ban of the use of fireworks. HB 172 does not limit the ability of a city or village to enforce an ordinance or statute regulating noise, disturbance of the peace or disorderly conduct.

We appreciate the care Rep. Baldrige and Rep. O'Brien have taken to respect municipal Home Rule authority in HB 172. The legislation ensures municipal officials are able to make the best decision for their own local community with respect to consumer grade fireworks.

Thank you for your time and your consideration of our position.

Sincerely,

Kent Scarrett
Executive Director
Ohio Municipal League