

HB 574 Proponent Testimony:

1. **William Haynes**, 6/13/22 - The last couple of years has been tough for artists and musicians. It's not just the pandemic, but that played a huge role. It's not uncommon for funding for artists to get cut when money is tight, that's nothing new. The funny thing is that people are willing to cut funding for musicians, reduce our ability to make a living, and cast us aside as a non-essential part of the economy...but then when the world shut down due to Covid 19, who did people turn to? They relied on us, the artists and musicians, to keep them entertained, motivated, and full of purpose. We have no trouble denying artists the things that they need, but rely on them to keep us fulfilled. As a long-time musician in the central Ohio area, I had to learn quickly that my livelihood was mostly in my own hands. People enjoy hearing my music, but it's not always easy to find a place to play. Venues only want musicians who will bring a large, high-spending crowd. If you want a place to play, and you want to get some kind of compensation, you have to create your own opportunities. I've been part of house concerts since I was a teenager. At the time, it was the only way to get to perform. As I grew in my craft and met other musicians, house shows became a way to create an intimate environment where people could enjoy music along with the comfort of being in a home. As the pandemic moved away from complete stay at home orders, it was still wise to keep gatherings small. House concerts allowed us to still play when restaurants and bars were closed. It gave people an activity where they could feel connected, while supporting the local musicians that helped them get through a hundred-year pandemic. Even as venues became available, people still enjoyed the intimacy of house concerts, so we kept them going. Supporting art in all of its forms is a way to support not just the artists of the community, but the community as a whole. When the government, industries, our jobs, and even our health let us down, art was there to pull us through. I believe members of the community should be allowed to donate their homes to these concerts. I also believe people of legal age should be able to enjoy adult beverages at these concerts. I also think hosts shouldn't be on the hook for paying for every drink. They should be allowed to charge a nominal fee as reimbursement. I'm not talking about a full bar. I'm talking about allowing guests and friends chip in for the cost of hosting a house concert. HB 547 helps create a culture that supports local artists by allowing the community to create opportunities, something we've always had to do...and are willing to do to share our art. The old laws make it criminal for the kind of gathering that has been enjoyed for ages. Rejecting this bill is telling artists again that you need us to get through the good and bad times of life, but not enough to actually support what we do. Ohio has always been a land of innovation, but we're behind when it comes to supporting and encouraging artists to make positive impacts on our community.
2. **Tony Kocheff**, 6/14/22 - I am in support of HB 547, known as the 'House Bill'. I understand that this new bill seeks to update the 100 year old Keeper of a Place law. Based on recent events, this old law has caused the normal culture of house concerts to be deemed "illegal" in the State of Ohio. The positive impact of house concerts on music, art, and community in Ohio is incredibly important to the social wellness of our society. I have personally experienced the benefits of house concerts, that happen through community gatherings in a home environment that leads to new friendships, creative support, and authentic human interactions. As a supporter of the arts and music, I believe we should be able to donate to artists in our homes. I also believe we should be able to donate to artists in our homes while enjoying an adult beverage of our choice. With this new bill, I support the aspects that allow hosts to be able to sell alcohol or be reimbursed by friends for the alcohol they provide, if they choose. This helps to alleviate financial burden from hosts that seek to regularly support the social, emotional, mental, creative,

artistic, and community benefits of home gatherings. We need to update old laws. HB 547 will help to support the cultural norms of home gatherings in Ohio, and with some support from the state, it could have an amazing economic impact on Ohio arts, music, and the fundraising initiatives of public servants in the State of Ohio.

3. **Robert Bickis Jr**, 6/14/22 - I've been to several house concerts across Columbus, including The Parlor. Although alcoholic beverages certainly make the event more enjoyable, I've never seen anyone from the actual house or musician, etc give away free alcohol. They're all BYOB and I've given other friends attending a beer, glass of the special wine I brought, etc and visa versa. If these house parties were actually allowed to sell alcohol, it would help financially support these unique events I've seen in every other city our size or larger. Creative events like these add to Columbus's culture and help attract and retain talent in our fine city.
4. **Bonnie Walton**, 6/16/22 - I'm writing to show my enthusiastic support of the 'House Bill' HB 547! I'm grateful for all of the opportunities I've had to experience house concerts and believe they are a valuable part of the arts and community in Columbus. Thank you for your consideration of this impactful bill.
5. **Chris McLaughlin**, 6/17/22 - I'm a musician who's played a handful of house shows, and while I don't drink alcohol much anymore myself, I think it should be legal for people to have access to alcohol while bands get paid. The host should be able to provide their guests with beverages and pay for the entertainment, that simple. And if they want to charge people for it all in order to pay the band, then more power to them. It's absurd that it can't legally be done yet.
6. **Stephana Faiella**, 6/21/22 - I fully support HB 547. I understand that this new bill seeks to update the 100 year old Keeper of a Place law. Music, culture and artistic expression is unbelievably important to our community and house concerts is a vital part of that. I support this new bill allowing hosts to have the ability to sell alcohol and/or be reimbursed by friends, if they so choose. HB 547 would be extremely beneficial to continuing the growth of the thriving music and arts community of Ohio.
7. **Robert McKee**, 6/21/22 - I fully support HB 547. I understand that this new bill seeks to update the 100 year old Keeper of a Place law. Music, culture and artistic expression is unbelievably important to our community and house concerts is a vital part of that. I support this new bill allowing hosts to have the ability to sell alcohol and/or be reimbursed by friends, if they so choose. HB 547 would be extremely beneficial to continuing the growth of the thriving music and arts community of Ohio.
8. **Robert Ng**, 6/24/22 - I am in support of HB 547, known as the 'House Bill'. I understand that this new bill seeks to update the 100 year old Keeper of a Place law. I was shocked to learn that the Columbus police ran a sting operation on a "house concert" that was supporting musicians before and during the pandemic. An unconscionable waste of the taxpayers money and I hope there are serious consequences for the officers involved. The positive impact of house concerts on music, art, and community in Ohio is incredibly important to the social wellness of our society. I have personally experienced the benefits of house concerts, that happen through community gatherings in a home environment that leads to new friendships, creative support, and authentic human interactions. As a supporter of the arts and music, I believe we should be able to donate to artists in our homes. I also believe we should be able to donate to artists in our homes while enjoying an adult beverage of our choice. With this new bill, I support the aspects that allow hosts to be able to be able to sell alcohol or be reimbursed by friends for the alcohol they provide, if they choose. This helps to alleviate financial burden from hosts that seek to regularly support the social, emotional, mental, creative, artistic, and community benefits of home gatherings. We need to update old laws. HB 547 will help to support the cultural norms of home gatherings in Ohio, and

with some support from the state, it could have an amazing economic impact on Ohio arts, music, and the fundraising initiatives of public servants in the State of Ohio.

9. **Kelly Zullo**, 6/26/22 - Encouraging music business even at the smallest levels is part of building a fire, must fuel the smallest embers to be a bright bonfire of arts. House concerts are great for artists and the patrons.
10. **Savannah McGrath-Sohn**, 6/26/22 - I know as a Columbus neighbor that I can fuller support Joey with this New implementation into our ever growing artistic community.
11. **James McMillan**, 6/28/22 - As both a private citizen and a professional journalist who has covered the emerging music scene in Columbus and beyond for decades, house shows are an essential part of the creative economy and the vitality of any city, town, or community that values creative expression. From local bands to regional, national, and even international acts, smaller shows are often the first audiences they reach as they hone their craft. The barrier to entry for traditional venues is high, so high that many simply can't perform in such locations profitably. House concerts offer an innovative alternative. In addition to hosting performances, the personal connections built around them help promote events and bring in new audiences. Ask any renowned solo artist or group where they started and the answer is inevitably a mix of living room shows and backyard concerts. It's where songs are polished, set lists are refined, and their identities as musicians are formed. The hospitality of such shows extends to more than the music. Just like any wedding, bar mitzvah, church picnic, or football party, hosts and guests routinely bring food and beverages for themselves or to share. These are private gatherings of friends and neighbors. The same standard should apply universally to house concerts. Having attended plenty of shows, personally and professionally, I've found the audiences to be welcoming and respectful and hosts responsible and generous — far more than most traditional concerts or venues. There's an inherent social compact that comes with house concerts. That's why performers and audiences value them more than just the opportunity to directly support and fund live music without promoters, operators, and ticket brokers keeping most of the profits. Carefully consider who benefits, and who doesn't, when weighing this legislation. You will likely find overwhelming solidarity among its supporters and the general public, and a conspicuous pattern of business interests in opposition. This couldn't be a more clear case of people versus corporations working against them. Choose wisely with your votes.
12. **Kaouthar Mghairat**, 6/2/22 - I believe in the diverse communities that house concerts create in Ohio — and sometimes alcohol can help adults connect and better form these social environments that benefit artists, politicians, and causes. For adults not to be able to legally drink alcohol and financially benefit artists in their home, at the same time, seems like a terrible limitation for the normal culture of art and camaraderie. Coming to The United States has showed me that we need to work together to grow our society. Part of this work is updating existing laws to make them more reasonable and supportive of the growing human culture. Excited to see more growth in Ohio. I support HB 547 in its entirety.
13. **Gregory J. Hendrickson**, 7/3/22 - I am in support of HB 547, known as the 'House Bill'. I understand that this new bill seeks to update the 100-year-old Keeper of a Place law. Based on recent events, this old law has caused the normal culture of house concerts to be deemed "illegal" in the State of Ohio. I have lived and worked in Ohio for the last 25 years. It has become my home as I've helped build the technology community and industry through executive leadership, equity investment in technology startups and growth, and through teaching technology in Junior Achievement and at the university level. I am considered a "grey bear" in the technology industry having developed global reach and expertise in the evolution of the computer and technology industry since 1975. I have been actively involved in the supply chain growth of Ohio since 2000

as a consultant, creator of the technology like B2B integration, Omni-Channel Commerce and more as a way to expand and manage the global supply chain of which Ohio is a critical source and benefactor. I am considered an expert in the supply chain industry based on the solutions, expertise, and thought leadership that I provide in this critical industry to the state. For the last eight years, I have been a senior lecturer / professor at the Ohio State University, a top 10 supply chain program nationally. I have had the opportunity to give back by teaching the next generation of professionals while leveraging my network to keep many in the state of Ohio. I have had the opportunity to maintain my relevance in the industry and to watch how the world is changing. I have been a highly rated professor based on my ability to give students both theory and practice in a way that allows them to be “job-ready” when they graduate. I have advanced my own research into the supply chain which will be launched later this year that is used to understand supply chain market growth and change and anticipate innovation to keep up and drive future growth. I make these statements as a pretext to suggest that as it relates to the economic and growth businesses in the supply chain (manufacturing, distribution, retail and eCommerce) and companies that are engaged in high technology and software and similar businesses, whether large corporate or startup company, I have both experience and understanding of how these industries growth and evolve in theory, practice and direct experience. I believe the greatest and most economically progressive states to emerge over the next twenty years will be those states that embrace the changing cultural orientation of communities from a “mass market centric” community to a balanced community of mass-market and “hyper-local”. As an example, I was commissioned to do a study on the Craft Beer industry in 2018 to understand how that particular industry was impacting the national beer market and the local supply chain. The study group mirrored the beer market nationally giving the study a bellwether kind of study group. There were many dimensions of the results but one of the most surprising was the identification of the power of the hyper local market. The hyper local market was best defined as the group of citizens as consumers and influencers that focus the largest percentage of their discretionary spending on locally oriented, higher quality brands than national brands. It altered the recommendations of the study when thinking about traditional business because the distribution of the beer as a “brand” was found to be less valuable than the additional location of a new brewery out, i.e. taproom or pub, where they directly served their brands. This behavior increased their market share and brand quality in the consumers eyes which increased their interest in purchasing through groceries etc. which is the opposite of how brands are traditionally built in the industry. The lesson of the study found that there is a very strong demand and influence in our local communities for hyper local brands, activities and services. It helps drive the identity of the community which, in the aggregate across the state, creates a strong identity that creates a diverse and inclusive community in the whole and a strong business climate for all things Ohio! I also believe, strongly, that every Ohio business needs to have a stronger employee base, innovative employees, and change supportive employees. To suggest that nature of work is changing, and that future employee will be different from the past is so foundational to the future as to be almost trivial in the asking. We are in the midst of a strong sea change in the way people think about and approach employment. It is the culmination of thirty years of change, both good and bad, related to the growth and aging all generations from Baby Boom to Gen Z, the evolution of technology and its impact on the technology industries, dramatic changes in our educational systems, the political climate, and much more. While COVID did not originate these behaviors, it appears they catalyzed many of them as we coped through the pandemic and now we are in a state of flux and chaos as business and society deal with what it means to get back to “work”. As a business leader and executive for over 25 years, I can say without equivocation that the value of a highly

productive associate is directly related to their skill and fit in the organization first and their application of that skill and fit in the day-to-day conduct of their work. As automation has been integrated into business through automation, systems, and much more, the value of the working associate has increased dramatically both in terms of their worth and the complexity of the job. The percentage of high skilled jobs has increased dramatically since 2000 but this is also a very long-term trend still requiring an entire spectrum of employee skills and capabilities. The trend is pervasive, however, and over the next fifty years, the need for skills like complex problem solving, strategic analysis and prediction, complex task management and more will be the difference between successful thriving companies and those that lag. Having built high performing teams in organizations nationally, including companies like Bank One in the late 1990's and Sterling Commerce (2000 – 2012, the key ingredient in these teams was a person that had strong technical skills and a strong set of outside interests that gave them a broader perspective and context of the world around them. We often referred to people like this as “well rounded” but in reality, this is the picture of a strong “fit / skill” combination that innovative leaders like Jack Welch used to build world-class organizations. Music, art and community are how people are building their “well roundedness”. Through the hyper-local movement, the local influence is growing stronger and identification with local brands is critical to creating the modern sense of community. These communities become “sticky” creating a local environment where well-rounded people become high fit/skill employees in companies that want to be there because they have found the most valuable thing they need: good people. States that learn quickly how to promote the ability for communities to build their identity and drive their hyper local stickiness will be the states that have net migration, increased state revenue and taxes, and, if they then use that to drive a positive climate for retirement and business, will become the leading and most influential states in the US. Hyper Local Music is what this Bill is all about. Creating an environment where local music groups can thrive, have the resources to build a profitable career and have outlets from large clubs to local house gatherings to express and deliver their products is a powerful way to open up the music economy in the hyper local environment and increase the “stickiness” of the local music scene to the local community. Updating House Bill 547 will enable the concept of a “performance” be stratified effectively and fairly across the spectrum of entertainment outlets available today in our hyper-local communities. I support the aspects that allow hosts to be able to be able to sell alcohol or be reimbursed by friends for the alcohol they provide, if they choose. This helps creates a consistent atmosphere across performance environments and simply makes sense. I came to Ohio in 1996 because I bought in to the message of the state back then that was working to overcome the rustbelt era and loss of traditional manufacturing. Since then, Ohio has outperformed most other states in the nation by consistently being in the top end of lists related to net migration, job creation, social growth, and much more. We aren't perfect, but I believe Ohioans believe in doing what is right and supporting our mutual growth. Today, that means we need to look to our current and future trends like we did back then. The world is changing and changing dramatically. We need to allow our local communities to develop their communities in ways that open the doors to music and arts as ways to create longevity and loyalty to local communities and the state. Passing HB 547 is a piece of that large and complex puzzle. Let's put that piece in place!

14. **James Hendrickson**, 7/3/22 - HB 547 is imperative for the preservation of cultural rights and our heritage to music and entertainment in the state of Ohio. As an entertainment professional, I labor to spend my time and talents with groups, communities & businesses supporting variety and freedom of food and beverage at live events. Private shows and gatherings are fundamental to the creative depth of art and music that exists in Central Ohio and beyond. By protecting artists,

audience & proprietors, Ohio's entertainment scene will be able to flourish once again, and the state's reputation as a destination for the arts will be firmly reinforced. House concerts have been fundamental to the growth of my career as a performer and allow artists to experiment, develop techniques, promote their shows, and refine their craft among many other benefits. If you haven't had the opportunity to attend a house concert, I encourage you to make the time and find out just how unique and wonderful music is when shared in a personalized setting. Please weigh the benefits of HB 547 for its relevance to the inventive and industrious community that it is written to protect and represent. Thank you.

15. **Penelope Malinky**, 7/11/22 - I support HB 547. Our community comes alive with creative and entertaining musicians! I have attended 2 concerts and can't wait to get back to the special space reserved for each one of us. Music touches everyone in such a unique way and provides that human connection which is so vital to our community
16. **Scott Brown**, 7/11/22 – I support this movement
17. **Robert L. Whalen**, 7/11/22 - The cliché of the starving artist is stamped on the American psyche. It's the punchline of jokes, a plot line in countless movies and books, and it's the truth for many - perhaps most - artists who have gained success. HB 574 is important as a lifeline to artists. Today's economic world is as tough as any this country has gone through. Inflation of both goods and housing is drowning too many. Anything that can be done to help is the responsibility of those who govern. House concerts were a staple of blues and early r&b musicians, who played rent parties. These gatherings resulted in work for musicians where it might not have existed. Too few gigs then paid. That problem still exists. Many places that provide live music do so in the form of open mics or "for exposure". How much great music has been lost because the musician couldn't make a living creating? They had to choose between doing what they love or paying the bills? This isn't a hand out. Artists aren't being subsidized by HB574. It's merely changing an archaic law that feels like it was leftover from Prohibition. In doing so, many artists will be able to make a little money doing what they love to do. Additionally, HB574 allows for more friendly gatherings. A coming together of people to enjoy themselves, have fun, and support local artists without the fear of arrests and fines. Without fear of a criminal record. I have never been to a house concert nor performed at one where any of HB574's regulations were broken. Typically these are smaller gatherings than the 100 provided for in the bill. There is no valid reasoning to prevent HB574's passage. Let the band play on.
18. **Brian Thomas**, 7/11/22 - As a supporter of local arts, I believe HB 547 is essential to the ecosystem which will help Ohio artists reach broader audiences. Supporting HB 547 is supporting artist jobs and Ohio itself.
19. **David Elliot Snider**, 7/12/22 - As a local musician, nationally performing artist, and internationally distributed recording artist - I submit the following testimony in support, and on behalf of HB 547. I have watched for countless years within my over 25 years within the music industry as venues, artists, and patrons alike have suffered continuous losses to the difficulties of economy and accessibility that have presented themselves over the years - and now, particularly, during and after the COVID-19 pandemic. Many small, accessible, and community driven venues have shuttered their doors and left a vacuum within the music community. One impressive force, and a lifeline of sorts to our community, has been the emergence of community driven, home based concerts. There are a few shining examples here in my hometown of Cleveland that have created opportunities for artists and audiences alike, that have been so very beneficial to the community. Many similar efforts have been made, to great success, across this state. Unfortunately, instead of being celebrated universally, many of these DIY and community supported events have been put in jeopardy - and even raided by law enforcement - due to an ill

informed impression that these events and venues are creating a negative impact within these same communities they tend to serve. An outdated law, and misunderstanding of the intended structure of these events has led to a crackdown based upon the assumption that there is a furnishing of alcohol to patrons. These events do not typically fall under this business model, nor do they advertise as such. Much like any social gathering or party, these events allow guests to provide their own alcohol for individual consumption, without the presumption or expectation of sales. Conversely, many of these events provide opportunities for sober individuals to share in community activities without the pressures of a venue or establishment that expressly promotes and sells alcohol as a majority share of their business model. This opportunity created allows for individuals to make conscious decisions on whether or not they choose to drink, and removes expectations or the obligation to purchase and consume alcoholic beverages in order to attend an event. Many diy and community spaces like these create safe spaces for individuals who are consciously sober, or in recovery, where they can participate in and enjoy musical entertainment without the pressures and temptations to consume alcoholic beverages. Similarly, events that invite guests and audience members to bring their own alcoholic beverages allow for these same individuals to continue to stay accountable in their own life choices without the temptation or expectation to participate in that facet of the evenings celebrations. Many of these events tend to take place in private homes, and community spaces that are not generally open to the public, nor have they established themselves as a venue which serves or sells alcohol to the general public at large. From a business and taxation standpoint, these events, and community organizations pose no threat in competition with local businesses, nor to the mandated taxation of alcohol for sale in regular establishments. Absolutely no one involved with these sorts of events sets out to “steal” business from other bars, restaurants, and venues within the community, nor to evade the taxation of liquor sales. It should be understood and recognized that these events do not generate income from, nor do they provide, alcoholic beverages. The passage of HB 547 would allow for these events to proceed without threat from punishment based upon a misinterpretation and misapplication of the current laws - by law enforcement, as well as city, county, or state officials - acting in the interest of regulating commerce and the levying or collection of taxes. Through the passage of this bill we can continue to provide safe and welcoming events within our communities and homes without fear of persecution, and prosecution. These types of events create and maintain a valuable resource within our communities - the arts. We have seen attempts to adequately fund and patronize the arts community, but even with the legislative action taken, even more has been done - thanklessly, and without motive for profit - by community leaders and artists in acts of mutual support and aid. I do not fault the legislative and council bodies of this state for a lack of results or action, for the resources required to fully rehabilitate the arts community are practically incalculable for anyone who is not firmly rooted in that community itself, or has a vested interest in its success. While mismanagement of funding and resources - in the hands of non profits and municipal governments alike - has happened, the examples of this are far less prevalent than the successful application of those efforts. That being said, the future - and present - state of the arts industry, that is an economic force within our state, and deserves acknowledgement, as well as adequate support from our local and state political leadership - is always best cared for by the community members and leaders within the arts itself. By allowing for the passage of this bill we are helping to foster community leadership and prosperity for an industry hard hit by the pandemic, that very regularly gets little recognition among the countless others so deeply effected by the social and economic difficulties of the last two years. By allowing communities, artists, and audiences to directly support the entertainment industry, and be patrons of the arts - we are providing support for an industry without the need for direct

government intervention. Furthermore, we are creating spaces that allow for such support without stirring fear of retribution and prosecution, that would perhaps reduce attendance and opportunities for financial security for those within this vulnerable industry. Artists are taxpayers, citizens, and community members - if not leaders and mentors - that deserve and have earned the equal respect of their community and their representatives as any other tax paying citizen would. By removing the restrictions placed upon them by an outdated, and shortsighted application of the law, we are creating economic opportunity and positive change within our communities. By allowing artists to practice their craft, and audiences to celebrate those same artists, which they love - we are fostering strength within our communities. Self determination, and freedom of assembly are not only constitutional rights, but beneficial to our democracy and community at large.

20. **Morgan Condo**, 7/12/22 - I totally support House Concerts and HB547
21. **Harley Barnes**, 7/12/22 - I am in support of HB 547, known as the 'House Bill'. When I have lived in other places including Dallas, Austin, New York City, and San Francisco, I have enjoyed the ability to host musicians and artists in my home for small gatherings, salons, and concerts. When I moved to Ohio I was shocked to learn that I could not do so legally here. I believe that I should be able to host these gatherings in my home and furnish alcohol for my guests without any oversight from the State - it is, of course, my home. I hope that you will follow through with the passage of this bill which will help a great many citizens in artists in their ability to fundraise for charities and assist with artist's livelihoods.
22. **Zachary Hartzell**, 7/20/22 - I've played at house shows. Been to them as an audience member too. As a performer, they're hard enough to get acoustics right and everything that most of us basically NEED a drink. I see no good reason why performers shouldn't be paid and reasonably small sales shouldn't be allowed to take place.
23. **Carey Banyas**, 4/26/22 - A sense of community is different for all people. Our family has a passion for music and house concerts provide a venue for a more intimate experience. Updating the Keeper of a Place law with this new House Bill would help those that want to consume alcohol about to do so and provide a means to fundraise at the same time. As an Ohio voter, I think you should support these initiatives.
24. **Denise Fisher**, 4/18/22 - I have attended several house concerts in Ohio. In addition to getting the opportunity to hear local artists perform live music in a warm, friendly, intimate environment, it felt good to know that I was supporting local artists and contributing to the further growth and strengthening of the local arts community. Being able to enjoy an alcoholic beverage of my choice while listening to a live music performance enhances my enjoyment of the experience, as I'm sure it does for others who attend local performances. Being able to bring one's own alcohol or purchase alcohol at the venue encourages more people to attend performances, thereby increasing support for local artists and helping to expand their audience.
25. **Pam Pallett**, 4/17/22 - Music and alcohol have long been partners in artistic enjoyment. Consider any music venue. Membership in the Decibel Club comes with pre- entry and the ability to buy alcohol. Concerts and football games allow alcohol. Alcohol is part and partial to the ambiance of a jazz club. This decision by Ohio police to persecute Joey discriminated unreasonably against house concerts.
26. **Alison McArthur**, 4/17/22 - House concerts are very important to give a venue to artists that are local or who are visiting from another location or who are innovative and do not have a large following yet. It is a more intimate connection to performers and makes for building a community in music. Not all of these venues can obtain liquor licenses or provide a bar to be

available to participants. There is no harm in allowing attendees to bring their own alcohol and it is a waste of the criminal system resources to keep the "Keeper of a Place" law.

27. **Miguel Hernandez**, 4/16/22 - The house concerts that sell drinks at their space is another avenue that local artists and or performers can utilize for financial support. Additionally, it is another income based on their craft or perhaps their sole income. Patrons and or supporters are paying to attend concerts and the venue may suggest BYOB. I've been to The Parlor. It is a nice atmosphere, where people get together to enjoy some great music from talented artists. These house concerts help promote the artists and leads to networking and other opportunities for the artist's careers.
28. **Britney Banyas**, 4/16/22 - As a community member in Columbus, I have always appreciated opportunities to support small and local musicians and artists. From my conversations with musician friends over the years, playing at bars around Columbus does not pay enough to support themselves or their families. Barriers like the Keeper of a Place law hold them back from sharing their craft and supporting themselves. Keeper of a Place seems ridiculous. Reducing these barriers with a new law is one way to show that Ohio is at the forefront of valuing music, art, and culture.
29. **Sharleen Newland**, 4/14/22 - My husband and I built a stage on our deck last year. We had 4 house concerts. We have 7 scheduled for this year. We take donations and 100% of the proceeds go to the artists. We guarantee to meet the artists' fees and make up the difference if we need to. Our guests enjoy having a drink and a snack while listening to music. Our aim is to support the arts and local culture while providing an entertaining evening for our friends in an intimate setting. We are providing employment to local musicians.
30. **Bret Adams**, 4/14/22 - What happened to Joey Hendrickson to cause this movement is beyond inexcusable. If any of you reading this truly care about Joey's mission you will stand up to the liquor lobby and bring Ohio's antiquated liquor laws into the 21st Century.
31. **Delaney Isaacs**, 4/5/22 - The independent music scene is the heart of musical culture at a local level. House shows allow artists to thrive without professional promotion or industry management and build a closer knit community. BYOB remaining illegal is a blow to independent artistry and DIY ethic in Ohio.
32. **Donna Mogavero**, 4/5/22 - I am in favor of the Ohio House Bill. House concerts have become a vital part of musical artists. Especially after going through the last two years with Covid. My audiences ages are basically 40yrs and up. We don't necessarily want to go to bars anymore. We appreciate the smaller more intimate settings where we feel more connected to our audience who want to actually listen to the music.
33. **Eric Ahlteen**, 3/25/22 - I am a musician and I appreciate the ways and means of being able to earn a living with the art we love. I have also been a host of quite a few house concerts. The people that come are the people that want to be close in an intimate environment, where they can really see and listen. This is important to many people now. House concerts are becoming more and more popular with people that really want to connect with the artist. It's nice to be able to have beer or wine while being safe inside a home enjoying music. The people that attend house concerts are certainly not a drunk or rowdy bunch. They are simply of age, music lovers. I support this bill