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House State and Local Government Committee
House Bill 405 – Proponent Testimony
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Chair Wiggam, Vice Chair John, Ranking Member Kelly, and members of the House State and Local Government Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide written proponent testimony on House Bill 405.

House Bill 405 seeks to clear up any remaining ambiguity in the code related to the appointment of county hospital boards of trustees. The language clarifies that the appointing authority of a county hospital board includes the three county commissioners, the probate judge of the county senior in point of service, and the judge, other than the probate judge of the county senior in point of service, of the court of common pleas of the county senior in point of service. The bill clarifies that each of these individuals receives one vote when determining appointments. These changes are consistent with Supreme Court of Ohio rulings on this matter.

CCAO supports the amendment clarifying that the appointing authority of a county hospital board in a charter county includes the county executive rather than the board of commissioners. There are two charter counties in Ohio, one of which owns and operates a county hospital. Thus, this inclusive language is critical.

CCAO supports this legislation and clarification of the code section to ensure there is not confusion during this important process of appointing county hospital board members. CCAO thanks Representatives Stewart and Johnson for introducing this legislation and respectfully asks the committee to favorably report House Bill 405.

