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**State Representative P. Scott Lipps**  
**Ohio House of Representatives**

Chairman Baldrige, Vice Chair McClain, Ranking Member Sheehy and Members of the House Transportation and Public Safety Committee, thank you for allowing me to come before you today and present sponsor testimony on House Bill 528.

This legislation will name the bridge spanning the Todd Fork also known as U.S. Route 22 in Warren County to the “PFC Edward O’Dell Mullins, Jr. Memorial Bridge.”

Private First Class Mullins was the last American combat fatality during World War II. He was born in Morrow, Ohio in Warren County in 1920. He enlisted in the Army in 1944, and was sent to the Philippines in May 1945 as a replacement. PFC Mullins served with distinction in combat and received a Bronze Star for his actions in July 1945 when he helped to eliminate 2 Japanese machine gun positions.

The next month, a Japanese sniper shot and killed PFC Mullins as his division was pursuing a Japanese General in the Luzon Mountains of the Philippines. PFC Mullins died instantly and approximately 45 minutes later, the order to cease hostilities was announced to the American and Filipino forces at Luzon.

Naming a bridge in Warren County after this brave soldier may seem inconsequential or trivial, but I assure you that this bill serves to represent a community that honors and values our Nation’s veterans. We must do everything within our power not to forget the men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice in order to preserve our great Nation and her people.

The community in Warren County fully supports this effort and the VFW Post 8202 Auxiliary has been especially helpful during this process.

**62<sup>ND</sup> HOUSE DISTRICT**

WARREN COUNTY

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Once again, Chairman Baldrige and Members of the House Transportation and Public Safety Committee, thank you for the opportunity to offer sponsor testimony on behalf of HB 528. I would be happy to answer any questions.