



Katie Moline

Council Member

At-Large

katie.moline@toledo.oh.gov

phone 419-245-1050

fax 419-245-1072

One Government Center

Suite 2120

Toledo, Ohio 43604

→ toledo.oh.gov

April 12, 2021

Chair Merrin, Vice-Chair Riedel, Ranking Member Sobecki and Members of the House Ways & Means Committee.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony in relation the matter before you: House Bill 157. My name is Katie Moline and I currently serve as a Member of Toledo City Council, at-Large. In addition to being a City Councilwoman, I am licensed Certified Public Accountant in Ohio.

When I first learned about House Bill 157, which would repeal Section 29 of House Bill 197 from the 133rd General Assembly, I immediately thought of the devastating impacts it would have on both the City of Toledo, and the businesses and employers within our municipality. Repealing Section 29 of House Bill 197 would only multiply negative outcomes of existing instability so many are facing in our communities throughout the State of Ohio as this global pandemic continues to overwhelm countless people and groups.

The primary source of revenue in the City of Toledo is municipal income tax collections, which goes toward our General Fund. The majority of the City's General Fund budget goes to funding our public safety forces, but also supports our municipal courts and public service like parks and recreation. The City of Toledo passed our 2021 budget assuming the provisions of House Bill 197 would not be in jeopardy. To repeal Section 29 of House Bill 197 would result in less income tax being collected, which likely would result in cuts to our public safety forces at time when we need to ensure our firefighters, paramedics and police officers can respond to vital frontline service calls in these challenging times.

Additionally, should House Bill 157 be enacted, employers throughout the City of Toledo, and the State of Ohio, would face an immediate and dramatic administrative burden. These businesses



Katie Moline

Council Member

At-Large

katie.moline@toledo.oh.gov

phone 419-245-1050

fax 419-245-1072

One Government Center

Suite 2120

Toledo, Ohio 43604

→ toledo.oh.gov

would immediately need to account for the duration and scope of remote work for each employee and then withhold and remit their various municipal payroll taxes accordingly. To make this change suddenly would have a destabilizing and negative impact to most businesses, at a time when they are only beginning to recover financially.

Therefore, I write to express my strong opposition to House Bill 157 that would repeal Section 29 of House Bill 197 – a section that was generated by the collaborative efforts of leaders in business and government. This opposition has been bolstered by Toledo City Council with a unanimous vote of support for Resolution 153-21, which was passed on March 31, 2021 and signed by Toledo Mayor Wade Kapszukiewicz. A copy of this Resolution has been submitted in conjunction with this written testimony.

Toledo and all of Ohio has faced down an extremely difficult time that has hurt our economies, our health, and the social fabric of our communities. At such moments, stability is needed to quell uncertainty. Repealing Section 29 of House Bill 197 would only exacerbate volatility and impede confidence. Thus, I urge this esteemed body to not pass House Bill 157 in its current version.

Thank you, Chairman Merrin, Vice-Chair Riedel, Ranking Member Sobecki and Members of the House Ways & Means Committee for the opportunity to provide written testimony on House Bill 157. I appreciate the time and consideration you have shown on this incredibly important issue that will have continued consequences for future generations.