

May 17, 2021

The Honorable Derek Merrin Chairman, Ohio House Ways and Means Committee

RE: House Bill 197 Letter of Support

Dear Chairman Merrin:

On behalf of the Ohio Chamber of Commerce, I write to you in support of House Bill 197; legislation that would authorize an income tax credit for an employer's expenses to train a commercial vehicle operator.

We all know how important and valuable commercial vehicle operators are to our economy and we also know that there is a major need as it relates to commercial vehicle operators. This bill does three simple things that, if enacted, would greatly help to fill that need. HB 197 does the following:

- Authorizes a nonrefundable income tax credit of up to \$25,000 per year for training expenses paid by employers to train employees to operate a commercial vehicle.
- Limits the total amount of credits that may be awarded each year to \$3 million.
- Applies to training expenses incurred on or after January 1, 2022.

We want to thank Representative Reggie Stoltzfus and Representative Rodney Creech for bringing this important legislation forward and we want to thank you, Mr. Chairman, for bringing HB 197 up for a hearing today.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions regarding our support of HB 197 at kboehner@ohiochamber.com or 614-228-4201.

Respectfully,

Kevin Boehner

Director, Small Business and Workforce Policy