

### 51st House District

Portions of Butler County, including Hamilton and Fairfield, Ross Township and portions of Fairfield, Hanover and St. Clair townships

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**Sara P. Carruthers**  
Ohio State Representative

### Committees

-Behavioral Health & Recovery Supports (Chair)-  
-Finance-  
-Families, Aging & Human Services-

### Commissions/Councils/Boards

-Early Childhood Advisory Council-  
-Ohio Arts Council-

## **House Bill 599 Sponsor Testimony** **House Ways and Means Committee** **April 5, 2022**

Chairman Merrin, Vice Chairman Riedel, Ranking Member Sobecki and members of the House Ways and Means Committee, I am happy to join Representative Lanese to provide sponsor testimony for House Bill 599.

As Representative Lanese has thoroughly explained, this legislation will allow Ohio the ability attract animation, gaming, entertainment technology, and motion picture production companies. We also need to retain our Ohio college graduates and have them use talents and provide opportunities.

The incentives provided to the qualifying companies come with requirements:

- Invest a minimum amount of \$500,000;
- Starting aggregate payroll of \$150,000 and will increase;
- Full-time employee must be either be a permanent Ohio resident or recent graduate from an Ohio university;
- Minimum post-production in Ohio of \$100,000;
- Employ two interns per year from Ohio-based colleges who assist with post-production or digital distribution services.

We need to make the right decisions on how to bring these companies into Ohio. The entertainment technology industry is one of the fastest growing. I remember in the past when movies would be shot in Ohio, then pack up and leave. It always seemed like the three C cities would be the location. Those times have changed and we can have these companies relocate in Ohio.

Chairman Merrin and members of the Ways and Means Committee, thank you for allowing us to testify on this issue. We would be happy to answer any questions.