

98 House District

Tuscarawas County

Holmes County

Committees

Chairmen: Civil Justice
Energy and Natural Resources
Financial Institutions

Columbus Office

Vern Riffe Center

77 S. High Street

11th Floor

Brett Hudson Hillyer State Representative

Chairman Wilson, Vice Chair Hottinger, Ranking Member Maharath, and members of the House Financial Institutions Committee– thank you for the opportunity to provide sponsor testimony regarding HB 133. This legislation regards commerce and property tax valuation complaints.

I am before you today speaking on an important legislation that passed the House unanimously and passed the Senate 30 to 1 on 12/22/2020 but they did not have time to concur. The House will need to concur and pass this legislation by March to provide much needed relief to Ohio businesses. The legislation will require a commercial credit reporting agency to provide credit reports to businesses and to establish a procedure whereby a business may dispute statements on the report.

The Ohio business community is a vital component of the state's economy especially during the Covid-19 pandemic and House Bill 38 from the 133rd General Assembly remains very important to the very businesses impacted by these tough times.

This Legislation will:

1. Allows county governments to save money by locking into energy purchasing contracts-supported by the County Commissioners Association
2. Adds needed language from the a department of commerce for definitions on mortgage lenders and brokers
3. Allows for personal credit repair reform to be more consumer friendly and help Ohioans repair and rebuild credit
4. Provides Important tax implications to help save Ohio businesses adversely affected by the corona virus

This legislation has been supported by the Columbus Chamber of Commerce, Columbus Partnership, Ohio Bankers League, Ohio Business Roundtable, Ohio Credit Union League, Ohio Hotel and Lodging Association, Ohio Mortgage Bankers Association, Ohio REALTORS, Ohio Restaurant Association, NAIOP of Ohio – Commercial Real Estate Development Association, and Siegel Jennings Co, LPA. These legal protections are consistent with those that you and I and every American enjoy under the national Fair Credit Reporting Act. This legislation simply gives those same rights to Ohio small businesses.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on HB 133 before you this afternoon and I would be happy to answer any questions that the committee may have.