



Jim Nikolai  
Vice President, State Government Affairs

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December 1, 2022

The Honorable Louis Blessing III, Chairman  
Ohio Senate Ways & Means Committee  
Ohio Statehouse  
Columbus, OH 43215

Re: HB 223

Dear Chairman Blessing and members of the Senate Ways & Means Committee,

On behalf of Synchrony Financial, I am writing to encourage you to vote in favor of House Bill 223. The bill would modernize Ohio's tax code by eliminating an arbitrary distinction between businesses that administer their own private label credit card (PLCC) program and those that partner with a third party.

Synchrony is one of the nation's premier consumer financial services companies. With 2.6 million active cardholders and more than 2,500 employees in Ohio, we are one of the largest providers of private label credit cards in the United States based on purchase volume and receivables.

Under current law, a retailer that makes a sale through a PLCC may deduct the sales tax remitted when the retailer is unable to collect the amounts due from the consumer, and writes off the sale as a bad debt. However, the deduction is not available for retailers who use a third party to administer their PLCC program.

House Bill 223 would eliminate this arbitrary distinction between those who administer their own PLCC programs in-house, and those who use a third party to manage their PLCC programs. The bill will reduce complexity for taxpayers when accounting for Ohio sales tax and the deduction of bad debts.

For these reasons, we respectfully request you support House Bill 223. Thank you for considering Synchrony's position on this legislation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jim Nikolai".

Jim Nikolai  
Vice President – State Government Affairs