

**Interested Party Statement to the
Ohio Senate Workforce and Higher Education Committee
for Sub. House Bill 509 • December 6, 2022**

Joe Savarise, President & CEO • Ohio Hotel & Lodging Association

Thank you for the opportunity to share input regarding potential changes to hotel licensure under consideration as part of Substitute House Bill 509.

Any proposal which threatens Ohio's effective and consistent method of licensing hotels at the state level with circumstances that could lead to a widely varying, confusing and potentially more expensive patchwork of local licensing schemes is concerning for the hotel & lodging industry.

It is important for hotel business operators, who most often operate in numerous different local jurisdictions across the state, to have consistency, uniformity and certainty in regulation and oversight.

It is also critical to our industry to avoid any circumstance which could lead to additional fees, such as for local inspections, that would supplant current state requirements.

The current system has been compatible with Ohio's efforts to maintain a business-friendly economy, and the state agency responsible for licensing collaborates as a true partner in supporting business while ensuring safety, which is of paramount importance to operators and consumers.

Thank you for your consideration,



Joe Savarise, CTA, CHIA
President & CEO