



HOUSE COMMERCE & LABOR COMMITTEE – Proponent Testimony, Senate Bill 30,
4.18.23

Chairman Johnson, Vice Chair Manchester, Ranking Member McNally, and members of the committee, thank you for holding this hearing and for the opportunity to provide testimony.

My name is Jeff Dillon, and I am the Ohio Legislative Director for Americans for Prosperity (AFP). As one of the largest grassroots organizations in the country, AFP is driving long-term solutions to some of the country's biggest problems. Our organization, and its thousands of activists across Ohio, are dedicated to breaking barriers that stand in the way of people realizing their full potential. Removing or reducing these barriers, in whatever forms they take, helps move our society toward one of mutual benefit, where people succeed by helping others improve their lives and by transforming their communities. Accordingly, I urge you to support and favorably report Senate Bill 30.

SB 30 would allow 14-year-olds and 15-year-olds, with parental consent, to work between the hours of 7:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. any time of the year, not just during summer months as permitted under current law. Simply put, this legislation would make it easier for any young people interested in working during the school year to have greater access to opportunity.

Individual circumstances vary considerably. Many teenagers and young adults come from family situations where their parents don't want them working and financial resources are plentiful. Others may want to acquire marketable skills to build their resumes while pocketing some spending money. Some may want to earn money to save for their futures, or they may want to put that money to good use in the present if their family situation is less economically advantaged than others. Whatever the circumstances may be, opportunity should exist for parents to make the best decisions related to the welfare of their children and their families.

SB 30 would create the possibility for mutually beneficial situations to occur in the workforce, where both employers and aspiring young people would have more opportunities to meet their unique needs.

A version of this bill from the 134th General Assembly, SB 251, unanimously passed the Senate, and SB 30 passed the Senate by a vote of 25 – 7.

Thank you again, Chairman, for the opportunity to provide testimony today. AFP – Ohio supports SB 30, and on behalf of my organization and our affiliated activists, I urge the members of the committee to favorably report this bill. Thank you.

Americans for Prosperity (AFP) exists to recruit, educate, and mobilize citizens in support of the policies and goals of a free society at the local, state, and federal level, helping every American live their dream – especially the least fortunate. AFP has more than 3.2 million activists across the nation, a local infrastructure that includes 36 state chapters, and has received financial support from more than 100,000 Americans in all 50 states. For more information, visit www.AmericansForProsperity.org.