



Advocating for Life, Faith, and Freedom in the Public Square

To: HOUSE COMMERCE & LABOR COMMITTEE
From: Chris Long, President Ohio Christian Alliance
Re: Supporting Testimony H.B. 327

Chairman Johnson, Vice-Chair Manchester, Ranking Member McNally and Members of the House Commerce & Labor Committee:

Thank you for receiving our testimony in support of HB 327.

E-Verify is a federal internet-based system operated by the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services – a division of the Department of Homeland Security (“DHS”) in partnership with the Social Security Administration (“SSA”). E-Verify is a free, efficient online service that electronically confirms an employee’s information with DHS and SSA records to confirm employment eligibility in the United States.

Currently, federal law requires employers to complete the federal I-9 form for each newly hired employee within the first three days of employment. Once completed, the employer is required to maintain the I-9 forms for three years after the date of hire but is not required to submit it to a federal agency. This is where the current system falls short).

HB 327 offers employers peace of mind that new hires are legally eligible for employment and protects jobs for authorized workers.

According to the National Council of State Legislatures (“NCSL”), 22 states require the use of E-Verify for public and/or private employers including: Alabama, Arizona, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Louisiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Nebraska, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Virginia and West Virginia.

The time has come for Ohio to join our border states of Indiana, Michigan, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia by implementing an effective E-Verify system for employment in the State of Ohio. Ohioans, like other Americans in other states, see the images of hundreds of thousands of illegals pouring over our southern border. It is now estimated that ten million have entered the United States illegally in the last 3-1/2 years. Thousands of these illegals have made their way to Ohio. It is time that we put the Ohio worker first. H.B. 327 will help to ensure that. That is why we are asking you to pass H.B. 327, Ohio’s E-Verify law.

Thank you, Chairman Johnson, Vice-Chair Manchester, Ranking Member McNally, and Members of the House Commerce & Labor Committee for receiving our testimony today in support of H.B. 327.