



SENATE SMALL BUSINESS & ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY COMMITTEE – Proponent  
Testimony SB 41, February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2023

Chair Lang, Vice Chair Wilkin, Ranking Member Sykes, 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 41.

SB 41 will eliminate and reduce barriers to economic growth by creating a timely, more efficient appeals process for resolving building inspection disputes. When thousands or millions of dollars are at stake, contractors, customers, and investors deserve a responsive government in the relatively rare instances that the types of disputes contemplated by the bill arise.

The expedited hearing process contained in SB 41 will not increase costs for taxpayers; in fact, the bill puts the onus and cost on contractors who believe they have a case to make, which only underscores how costly the current appeals process can be for all parties.

Everyone wants safe infrastructure, and everyone deserves a government that is not a hindrance to legal economic activity. By updating existing statute and putting forward this commonsense reform, SB 41 will achieve both those aims.

Thank you again, Chairman, for the opportunity to offer testimony today, and we'd like to thank Senator Roegner as well for her consistent leadership as a champion of sensible legislative solutions to keep Ohio's economy moving forward. The Senate unanimously passed a version of this bill (SB 196) during the 134<sup>th</sup> General Assembly. AFP – Ohio supports SB 41, 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](http://www.AmericansForProsperity.org).*