

Proponent Testimony: House Bill 209, Create Ohio Society Daughters of American Revolution Plate
House Homeland Security Committee
December 06, 2023

Chairman Ghanbari, Vice-Chair Plummer, Ranking Member Thomas, and members of the House Homeland Security Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on HB 209.

Since its inception in 1891, the Ohio Society Daughters of the American Revolution has made a significant impact within the great state of Ohio. OSDAR is a volunteer, non-profit, service organization that focuses on promoting patriotism, preserving American history and education. Our 6,300 members are actively serving communities in a variety of ways that include: supporting our soldiers and veterans, cleaning up neighborhoods, providing food and additional support to the underserved, supporting new citizens through literacy efforts, and providing education on American History and Government to Ohio's youth. OSDAR further supports students with classroom supplies, conducting essay contests and awarding individual educational scholarships. This is just a brief highlight of the many ways that OSDAR's members serve Ohio communities every single day.

In her quest to preserve Ohio's history, the OSDAR has placed an estimated 4,000 historic, commemorative and patriot markers within the boundaries of Ohio. In preparation for Ohio's 250th Anniversary, efforts are currently underway for OSDAR to identify and recognize underrepresented individuals buried in Ohio, who have helped in the effort to achieve American Independence. These underrepresented individuals include females, African Americans, Native Americans, Jewish, Spanish, Dutch, French and French Canadians.

I believe that OSDAR is well deserving of a license plate to help recognize the great work they have done and will continue to do for the residents of Ohio.

Mr. Chairman and members of the House Homeland Security Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide my written testimony today.

Respectfully,
Dr. Stephanie Thompson Smith