



**Representative Thomas Hall
46th House District**

House Bill 145 Sponsor Testimony

Chairman John, Vice-Chair Dean, Ranking Member Brennan, and members of the House State and Local Government Committee. Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to provide sponsor testimony for House Bill 145, which seeks to expand political subdivision joint purchasing authority.

Throughout the time I have had the privilege to spend in the House I have focused on nothing more so than increasing efficiency in Ohio. This bill is a continuation of that goal. Under current law, a political subdivision is permitted to enter into a joint purchasing agreement for the acquisition of material, supplies, equipment, or services. This allows political subdivisions to participate in contracts entered into by another political subdivision without having to go through the entire contract procurement process.

However, this is only an option provided the political subdivision that originally awarded the contract did so after publically soliciting requests for a proposal or used a competitive selection process.

Recently in 2019, the Attorney General made a determination that construction services was not included in this option because we in the legislature failed to include the word “construction” in the provision. This mistake has placed the burden on the Ohio tax payers to fund the entire contract procurement process again while increasing the time needed to complete these construction projects. HB 145 simply intends to

rectify the mistake observed by the 2019 Attorney General's opinion and codify the previously allowed inclusion of construction services under the joint purchasing authority between subdivisions.

Chairman John and members of the committee, thank you again for the opportunity to testify on House Bill 145 and I would now like to allow my joint sponsor Rep. Lampton the opportunity to provide comments.