



**State Representative Brian Lampton  
District 70**

**HB 145 – Sponsor Testimony  
Ohio House State and Local Government Committee  
9 May 2023**

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Chair John, Vice Chair Dean, Ranking Member Brennan, and members of the House State and Local Government Committee. Thank you for the opportunity to provide sponsor testimony today for House Bill 145. Municipal corporations, townships, counties, school districts, hospital commissions, regional planning commissions, regional council of governments, emergency planning districts, fire and ambulance districts, and community-based correction facilities all benefit from the use of joint purchasing. The use of this established and time-tested method of procurement directly benefits Ohio taxpayers by streamlining the procurement process, which results in administrative time and cost savings, and quicker completion schedules.

An August 2019 Ohio Attorney General opinion has created ambiguity among local government that use this authority. The unintended effect of not including construction services has led local governments to question its authority to pursue joint purchasing contracts, despite their decades-long track record of success in doing so. This is an important piece of legislation as it encourages competition among industry and ensures local governments have access to the most useful procurement means available to them. I should note that the use of joint

purchasing agreements between political subdivisions for cooperative procurement is an option, and not a mandate.

House Bill 145 is an important piece of legislation. Joint purchasing has proven to be an open, transparent, competitive public procurement process, and that is why it's been labeled a "best practice" for government procurement officials by The National Institute for Government Procurement and recognized by the American Bar Association in its Model Procurement Code.

Thank you again for your time today and I would be pleased to answer any questions you may have.