



HOUSE STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT – PROPONENT TESTIMONY, SB 44 – 12.10.24

Good afternoon, Chairman Wiggam, Vice Chair Dean, Ranking Member Brennan, and members of the House State and Local Government Committee. Thank you for holding this hearing and for the opportunity to submit written proponent testimony on SB 44. My name is Hannah Kubbins, and I am the Legislative Director for Americans for Prosperity – Ohio (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 44, sponsored by Senator Brenner, which would require state departments, agencies, or offices that issue a license (or another authorization) to practice a trade or profession to require applicants to apply through eLicense Ohio.

This commonsense legislation will reduce barriers for Ohio's workforce by modernizing processes for all applications and administrative updates by requiring electronic interfaces to be made available to all prospective applicants and currently licensed workers. As Senator Brenner alluded to in his sponsor testimony, today, when seemingly everything – signing mortgage documents, scheduling services, shopping, consulting healthcare providers – can be done online, it does not make sense for these processes to still be paper-based in many instances.

SB 44 is a good government bill that will improve the experience for government customers and streamline processes for government employees. Thank you again for the opportunity to offer testimony today. AFP – Ohio supports SB 44, and on behalf of my organization and

our affiliated activists, I urge the members of the committee to favorably report this bill.
Thank you.