

JCARR Budget Testimony
House Finance Subcommittee on Transportation
March 7, 2023

Good morning Chairman Patton and members of the House Finance Subcommittee on Transportation. My name is Greg Fouche and I am currently serving as Interim Director of JCARR. I appreciate the opportunity to offer testimony today on JCARR's budget request contained in House Bill 33.

The Joint Committee on Agency Rule Review (JCARR) was created in 1977 and consists five House members and five Senate members. On even numbered years, the Chairperson is a member from the Senate and odd numbered years, the Chairperson is member from the House.

JCARR has the same powers as other standing committees and meets approximately once every three weeks even in times when the General Assembly has adjourned. The primary role of JCARR is to review all proposed new, amended and rescinded administrative rules as well as No Change Rules filed from over 100 state agencies to ensure agencies do not exceed their rule writing authority granted to them by the General Assembly.

In addition to JCARR's rule review duties over the last biennium, the JCARR staff has worked to meet additional responsibilities given to it through enacted legislation. Specifically, the JCARR staff has worked over the past year with Legislative Information Systems to develop a tool to better assist agencies in entering and keeping track of their progress towards meeting their regulatory restriction reductions, helped create the Cut Red Tape Ohio website, implemented the collection of agency policy reviews and has continued to work to improve the JCARR and RuleWatch Ohio websites to make them more user friendly to those who wish to follow the rule-making process.

Over the past year, the staff of JCARR has been in transition with the retirement of its long serving Executive Director and its Rules and Technology Administrator who has since moved on to another state agency. Currently, JCARR is maintaining office operations with a staff of two, but hopes to get back its usual full staff of four in the near future.

The JCARR proposed budget of \$610,000 for FY 2024 and \$620,000 for FY 2025 will allow JCARR to get back to full staff and continue to meet its statutory responsibilities.

Thank you Mr. Chairman and members of the committee for your time and I would be willing to answer any questions you may have.