



**OHIO HOUSE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE**  
**April 9, 2024**

**Written Proponent Testimony**  
**House Bill 370**

Chair McClain, Vice Chair Dobos, Ranking Member Grim, and members of the Ohio House Transportation Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide proponent testimony regarding the Ohio Municipal League's support for House Bill 370, which would strengthen the partnership between state and local government in Ohio.

The league represents more than 730 municipalities, with nearly 500 of them being villages. These communities pride themselves on being good stewards of taxpayer money. They carefully consider their finances to best provide services to their residents and businesses. One of the most crucial ways they do this is through road maintenance – often including the maintenance of state routes that overlap with municipal boundaries.

Every day, residents and visitors crisscross throughout the state by way of our state transportation system, often driving through villages that have a limited number of residents but a strong need to provide for the safe and efficient travel of motorists.

Unfortunately, the costs of road maintenance, including snow plowing and lawn mowing, can quickly add up for struggling communities. With the limited sources of revenue available to municipalities, especially smaller ones, House Bill 370 serves as a welcome boost to these communities while providing for uniformity throughout the state and consistency among ODOT districts.

ODOT is a vitally important partner to local governments, including the municipalities OML represents, and HB370 can strengthen this partnership by providing for the maintenance and repair of these roadways within village limits, as well as the pavement markings that make them more functional and safer.

We appreciate Representative Edwards for this thoughtful and needed legislation. HB370 will ease a burden placed on municipalities, and we ask for its favorable passage.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this legislation.

Kent Scarrett  
Executive Director  
Ohio Municipal League