Senator Vernon Sykes 1 Capitol Square Columbus, OH 43215 (614) 466-7041 Sykes@ohiosenate.gov



Committees: Finance, Ranking Member Small Business & Economic Opportunity Ranking Member Community Revitalization, Ranking Member Education Controlling Board

## Sponsor Testimony Senate Bill 141 Ohio House Transportation Committee November 12, 2024

Chair McClain, Vice Chair Dobos, Ranking Member Grim, and members of the House Transportation Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide sponsor testimony on S.B. 141, which would designate a portion of Interstate 77 in Akron, the "American Gold Star Mothers, Inc. Memorial Highway".

The American Gold Star Mothers, Inc. is a nonprofit organization comprised of mothers whose children have died or gone missing in action in service of the United States Armed Forces. Incorporated in 1929, AGSM currently has chapters in 49 states and the District of Columbia.

It provides support for mothers nationwide whose children have paid the ultimate sacrifice for our nation. They provide emotional and financial support to both active-duty and former members of the armed forces and their families in a variety of ways, including purchasing school supplies and clothing for veterans, activeduty service members, and gold star children; making holiday meals for veterans homes and military bases; and providing assistance with home and vehicle repairs, and moving expenses for military families in need.

This highway designation would offer a small tribute to these mothers who have suffered so that we may enjoy the freedoms we have in this country today.

Thank you for allowing me to testify on this bill. I welcome any questions that you may have.

OHIO SENATE | 1 CAPITOL SQUARE | COLUMBUS, OH 43215