

Monday, May 1, 2023

The Honorable Tim Schaffer, Chair
Senate Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee
Ohio Senate Building
1 Capitol Square,
1st Floor, Room 137
Columbus, OH 43215

Chair Schaffer and Members of the Senate Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee

On behalf of the Hispanic Chamber Cincinnati USA, we write in support of the Ohio Commission on Hispanic/Latino Affairs (OCHLA) Operating Budget Request. We ask for your support on Governor DeWine's recommendation for the Commission.

Over the last 2 decades, the OCHLA office has provided excellent "connectivity" for all the Hispanic/Latino organizations operating in the State of Ohio. Their proactive way in which they seek and share information provides us with the perspective to make good decisions on very important subjects; Business, Health Care, Education, etc.

- Data shows that with nearly 2,000 Hispanic owned businesses employ nearly 19,000 with annual payroll of more than \$630 million. OCHLA has continued to effectively strengthen community partnerships to better serve Latino constituents.
- OCHLA serves close to half a million individuals that comprise of Ohio's vibrant Latino community, a population that has doubled since 2000 and whose median age is 26.9 years old making them instrumental in the economic health of our state.

Your support of the Ohio Commission on Hispanic/Latino Affairs (OCHLA) assures that they have the adequate funding to continue serving the fastest growing minority workforce population; a promising community pursuing economic opportunities contributing to the progress of Ohio.

Thank you for your consideration – you may contact our office with any additional inquiries.

Respectfully,



Alfonso Cornejo † President
Hispanic Chamber Cincinnati USA

