



Ohio Fair Managers Association
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Chairman Schaffer, Vice Chairman Landis, Ranking Member Hicks-Hudson and members of the Senate Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee, thank you for the opportunity to express the Ohio Fair Managers Association's (OFMA) support of House Bill 162. The OFMA is the statewide association representing Ohio's 95, county fairs, independent fairs and the Ohio State Fair.

HB 162 is a simple bill to make certain day and week designations to support agriculture in the State. By bestowing these designations, the Ohio legislature is showing the value you put on this important industry and its future. OFMA is in particular support for the special recognition of 4-H and FFA. These programs are encouraging the future generation to continue the farming and agriculture traditions of this state.

The Junior Fair activities are the premier events at our fairs for the Ohio youth to shine a spotlight on the work they did on the projects. Whether that be livestock, crafting, cooking or STEM activities, all youth participating gain important experience. They learn useful tools they can carry with them for a lifetime, for example: the importance of animal health, commitment to deadlines and completing projects, good sportsmanship, etc. We need to promote and encourage these traits in Ohioans! By giving these organizations special recognition, you are shining a spotlight on their importance, and we applaud the effort.

Mr. Chairman, members of the committee, the OFMA appreciates your consideration and hope the legislation is favorably passed.