



**Tim Williams, Executive Director
Ohio Manufactured Homes Association
Senate Finance Committee
House Bill 33 Interested Party Testimony
June 8, 2023**

RETAIN MANUFACTURED HOMES ADVISORY COUNCIL (COMCD43)

Chair Dolan, Vice Chair Cirino, Ranking Member Sykes and members of the Finance Committee. I am Tim Williams, Executive Director of the Ohio Manufactured Homes Association (OMHA). Since 1947 the Ohio Manufactured Homes Association has represented all segments of the manufactured housing industry providing affordable housing to over 900,000 Ohioans living in manufactured homes.

In past years, OMHA supported the General Assembly's consolidation of a one stop shop for all manufactured homes regulation under the Manufactured Homes Commission. Then, when former Governor Kasich decided to abolish the Manufactured Homes Commission in 2017, OMHA was concerned industry, consumer and government inspection entities input would be lost altogether. As a result, the General Assembly agreed that it was necessary to have regulated entities have a voice in the regulatory process. House Bill 49 (132nd GA) established the Manufactured Homes Advisory Council in conference committee as a balanced compromise. OMHA believes that it would now be a mistake and disservice to consumer safety to eliminate the Advisory Council as provided for in the Senate substitute version of House Bill 33.

The Manufactured Homes Advisory Council was established to advise the Department of Commerce in regulating the manufactured housing industry in Ohio, and it has been a tremendous success. Having industry, consumer and inspection organizations assist through an advisory process in creating better understanding of what works and does not work has resulted in Ohio having the highest installation and safety standards of any state with three on site home inspections in addition to the federal inspections in the factory homebuilding process. The Advisory Council collaborating with the Department of Commerce has resulted in making Ohio a leader in successfully regulated states in the nation.

For these reasons, I respectfully request the Committee to **retain the Manufactured Homes Advisory Council (COMCD43)**.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee, for the opportunity to provide testimony today.