

Ohio Senate

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Niraj Antani State Senator 6th District

SPONSOR TESTIMONY SENATE BILL 70

Senator Niraj Antani

September 20th, 2023

Chairman Rulli, Vice-Chair Schuring, Ranking Member DeMora, and members of the General Government Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide sponsor testimony on Senate Bill 70.

As the first Hindu and Indian American State Senator in Ohio history and the youngest Hindu and Indian American elected official in the country, I'm proud to introduce SB 70 which recognizes the month of October as Hindu Heritage Month.

Ohio is home to tens of thousands of Hindu Americans who have lived and worked in Ohio for many decades. There are approximately 15 Hindu Temples in Ohio in the Cleveland, Akron, Toledo, Columbus, Cincinnati, and Dayton regions. Hindu Americans across Ohio have contributed greatly to our state and are seeking this recognition to declare October as Hindu Heritage Month.

Therefore I ask for your support for this bill recognizing the contributions of Hindus in Ohio. Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of SB 70. I would be happy to answer any questions at this time.