



Sponsor Testimony
Senate Bill 235
Ohio Senate General Government Committee
June 25, 2024

Chair Wilkin, Vice Chair Schuring, Ranking Member DeMora, and members of the Senate General Government Committee, thank you for the opportunity to speak with Senator Kunze on Senate Bill 235.

Senate Bill 235 will designate the first full week in May as “Public Service Recognition Week”. This would align Ohio with the federal government, which has celebrated Public Service Recognition Week since 1985, and would pay homage to the work of the over 52,000 federal employees, 49,000 state employees, and tens of thousands of county, city, and municipal employees, and armed forces and national guard service members that currently reside in the state of Ohio.

I now invite my joint sponsor to speak more on Senate Bill 235.

It is impossible to overstate how vital Ohio’s public servants are to the fabric of our communities. Public servants teach our children, deliver our mail, keep us healthy and safe, build and maintain our infrastructure, protect our state’s environment and world-class natural resources, ensure free and fair elections, support our work as legislators, and so much more. They are our friends, our neighbors, and our colleagues. Every day, public servants do the hard work needed to make our state as great as it is.

For nearly forty years, we have seen governors of this state, Congress, and presidents all individually and intermittently recognize Public Service Recognition Week. This bill would make it the policy of the State of Ohio to honor our incredible public servants every year, as we rightly should.

We look forward to working with this committee as Senate Bill 235 continues through the committee process, and we look forward to soliciting feedback from the public on this bill.

Thank you for allowing us to testify on Senate Bill 235. We welcome any questions you may have.