

S.B. 323
Written Proponent Testimony
November 11, 2024
Senate General Government Committee
Jeanne Porter, Founder of Women in Christian Leadership

Chair Wilkin, Vice Chair Schuring, Ranking Member DeMora, and members of the Senate General Government Committee:

Thank you for allowing me to present testimony in support of Senate Bill 323, which aims to establish September 28th as Speaker Jo Ann Davidson Day. This legislation fittingly pays tribute to Speaker Jo Ann Davidson, a trailblazer whose leadership and enduring influence have left an indelible mark on my life, the lives of other women, and countless people throughout Ohio.

Over the years, I have had the honor of witnessing Speaker Davidson's exceptional leadership, unshakeable integrity, and unwavering commitment to empowering others. Her mentorship and encouragement have had a profound impact, inspiring me to navigate my own path with courage and conviction. Speaker Davidson embodies the principles of strength, public service, and accountability, consistently using her influence to lift others and make meaningful changes.

My admiration for her work led me to participate in the Jo Ann Davidson Ohio Leadership Institute, class of 2007, where I experienced firsthand the transformative effect of her vision. The program not only sharpened my leadership skills but also opened new avenues for growth, empowering me to create programs like Women in Business Networking and a nonprofit ministry, Women in Christian Leadership, that uplift and connect women. It was through this experience that I gained the tools, inspiration, and community to impact lives more deeply, and my gratitude for her enduring legacy only grows.

Designating September 28th as Speaker Jo Ann Davidson Day would be a meaningful honor to recognize an extraordinary leader who has changed lives and empowered communities. It would also serve as a lasting reminder of the importance of mentorship, encouragement, and a steadfast commitment to the growth of others.

It is with the utmost respect and appreciation that I urge you to support this significant measure and recognize the legacy of a woman who continues to inspire us all. Thank you for your consideration of SB 323.

Sincerely,



Jeanne Porter