## Frank Hoagland State Senator 30<sup>th</sup> District



## Sponsor Testimony- Senate Bill 12 Ohio Senate Small Business and Economic Opportunity Committee February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Chairman Lang, Vice Chairman Wilkin, Ranking Member Sykes and members of the Small Business and Economic Opportunity Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide sponsor testimony on Senate Bill 12.

You may remember SB-12 as we introduced it in the 134th GA as SB-291. Senate Bill 14 establishes a veteran-owned business enterprise certification program under the Department of Development.

It also expands the eligibility criteria for set-aside programs currently available to certified minority business enterprises. This would now include certified veteran-owned business enterprises. They will all be collectively defined in Senate Bill 12 as disadvantaged business enterprises.

Senate Bill 12 also makes certified veteran-owned business enterprises eligible for contract purchases set aside by the Department of Administrative Services and other state agencies.

This bill creates equal opportunity for disadvantaged small businesses in Ohio when applying for these contracts with state agencies by extending the eligibility for contract purchases to other disadvantaged business enterprises previously exclusive to minority-owned businesses. This increases economic development by supporting more small business across Ohio.

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to provide testimony for Senate Bill 12. Thank you for your attention to this matter and I would be happy to answer any questions.

Sincerely,

Frank Hoagland

Ohio Senate District 30