



Representative Roy Klopfenstein

82<sup>nd</sup> House District

Vice Chair Newman, Ranking Member Miller, and members of the House Agriculture Committee, thank you for the opportunity to offer sponsor testimony on House Bill 433.

The purpose of this legislation is to modernize Ohio's outdated fee structure for amusement ride inspections and ensure a fair, transparent, and cost-reflective process. Under current law, all rides are charged the same permit fee and their inspection fee is not reflect their size, complexity, or the time required for inspection. This creates significant inequities, as small inflatable rides pay disproportionately large fees compared to large roller coasters, despite requiring vastly different levels of inspection resources.

House Bill 433 was drafted to implement a plan approved by the Ohio Department of Agriculture's *Advisory Council on Amusement Ride Safety*, which is made up of industry stakeholders. While this language was included in the House-passed version of the state budget, it did not survive the final budget process. We believe it is important to move it forward now as standalone legislation.

Specifically, this bill will:

- Establish ride categories based on size and complexity, such as inflatables, kiddie rides, major rides, and large roller coasters;
- Introduce volume discounts for inflatable inspections to support small operators;
- Ensure revenue neutrality by covering the state's inspection costs without increasing the overall burden on the amusement ride industry;
- Promote fairness and transparency by aligning fees with actual inspection workloads.

This reform ensures that Ohio's amusement ride safety program remains strong while protecting operators from an inequitable fee system. It recognizes the vastly different resource requirements of small and large rides and allows the state to maintain inspections that are rigorous, transparent, and fair.

I respectfully ask for your support of this legislation. Thank you for your time, and I will now turn it over to my joint sponsor.