



Testimony of Lora Current, State Director
Heritage Action for America
May 14, 2025

Proponent Testimony: HB 246

Submitted to the Ohio House Commerce and Labor Committee

Chairman Johnson and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in favor of HB 246. My name is Lora Current and I am the Ohio State Director for Heritage Action for America. We are a grassroots organization with two million grassroots activists across the country, including thousands of Ohioans.

Heritage Action asks you to support House Bill 246.

During the Biden administration, over 10 million illegal immigrants¹ crossed our nation's borders from over 160 countries. States across the country are now bearing the consequences of illegal immigration like never before. According to one 2023 estimate, over 132,000 illegal aliens reside in Ohio, costing Ohio taxpayers over \$582 million a year².

While it is true that the federal government has primary responsibility to enforce our immigration laws, providing more state-level interior enforcement with tools like E-Verify can provide a significant deterrent to illegal immigration into Ohio.

Ohio can play a crucial role³ in upholding our country's laws and fighting illegal immigration. **HB 246 would strengthen Ohio's ability to fight our nation's border crisis by:**

- Requiring government contractors, private nonresidential contractors, and certain employers to use E-Verify.
- Protecting Ohio jobs and helping employers maintain a legal workforce.
- Allowing the Attorney General of Ohio to hold violators accountable.

We urge the Committee to pass HB 246.

¹ <https://www.dailysignal.com/2024/02/13/breaking-house-votes-to-impeach-mayorkas/>

²

https://www.fairus.org/sites/default/files/2023-03/Fiscal%20Burden%20of%20Illegal%20Immigration%20on%20American%20Taxpayers%202023%20WEB_1.pdf

³

<https://www.heritage.org/border-security/report/enforcing-immigration-law-what-states-can-do-assist-the-federal-government>