

WITNESS INFORMATION FORM

Please complete the Witness Information Form before testifying:

Date: October 8, 2025

Name: Mayor Shane N. Gunnoe

Are you representing: Yourself ☐ Organization ☒

Organization (If Applicable): City of Dover

Position/Title: Mayor

Address: 110 East Third Street

City: Dover State: Ohio Zip: 44622

Best Contact Telephone: (330) 343-6726 Email: shane.gunnoe@doverohio.com

Do you wish to be added to the committee notice email distribution list? Yes ☐ No ☒

Business before the committee

Legislation (Bill/Resolution Number): HB 379

Specific Issue: Proponent Testimony

Are you testifying as a: Proponent ☒ Opponent ☐ Interested Party ☐

Will you have a written statement, visual aids, or other material to distribute? Yes ☒ No ☐

(If yes, please send an electronic version of the documents, if possible, to the Chair's office prior to committee. You may also submit hard copies to the Chair's staff prior to committee.)

How much time will your testimony require? Five minutes

Please provide a brief statement on your position:

The City of Dover is supportive of HB 379, which will encourage and promote economic development within the city by allowing unused State of Ohio public lands to be sold and repurposed for commercial use.

Please be advised that this form and any materials (written or otherwise) submitted or presented to this committee are records that may be requested by the public and may be published online.



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HB 379

Chairman Hoops, Vice Chair Lorenz, Ranking Member Brownlee and the members of the committee, Thank you for the opportunity to testify regarding House Bill 379.

My name is Shane Gunnoe, and it is my honor to serve as the Mayor of the City of Dover, Ohio, and I come before the committee to today in support of HB 379. This legislation will provide the State of Ohio an opportunity to support important public services surrounding national security, education, utilities and recreation by divesting itself of state-owned property that is otherwise no longer needed for its original governmental purpose.

In my community this legislation also has a direct local impact by opening up approximately 1.7 acres of unused land currently owned by the Ohio National Guard. Decades ago, when a new National Guard Armory in town was built, it was sited at the far north end of the city and was then surrounded by cornfields. However, after decades of gradual growth in the area, the site now sits right in the heart of a busy commercial zone that has really taken off in the last few years.

Our city has been ranked by Site Selection Magazine as the #3 small micropolitan community in the US in 2024 for economic development growth. Within one mile of the National Guard Armory site, you will find multiple housing subdivisions underway, several planned or recently constructed commercial or industrial expansions, and the largest economic development project Dover has ever experienced. The Schaeffler Corporation is investing \$230 million into constructing a new e-mobility facility that will create 450 new high skill and high wage jobs in our city just down the road from the land we are discussing today.

This activity has increased the need for available land in Northern Dover. Our office has fielded a number of inquiries into the National Guard Site from commercial prospects, and we have worked with the National Guard, and the Department of Administrative Services, to ensure the state otherwise does not need the parcel which would be conveyed in HB379.



TREE CITY USA

So, in my mind HB 379 provides positives for all parties involved both statewide and as it relates to the parcel in the City of Dover. The State of Ohio is able to divest itself from land which otherwise no longer is needed and support important other functions along the way. In our case, this land would be sold at fair market value with the funds returned to the state coffers. Private developers would get the opportunity to acquire valuable ground for commercial development in highly sought after part of the community at fair market value. The City of Dover, and our residents, will see the benefits of new jobs, an increased tax base and improved quality of life as a result of the future commercial development of this parcel. This legislation truly is a win for all parties involved.

For these reasons, I respectfully ask for your support of this legislation. Thank you!

