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October 29, 2025

**Jewish Federation of Cincinnati
House Bill 188 Proponent Testimony
House Development Committee**

Chair Hoops, Vice Chair Lorenz, Ranking Member Brownlee, and members of the House Development Committee, thank you for the opportunity to offer written proponent testimony in support of House Bill 188. My name is Danielle Minson, and I am testifying today on behalf of the Jewish Federation of Cincinnati. The mission of the Federation is to develop and connect leaders, contributors, organizations, and ideas to build an inclusive Jewish community that helps people in need, supports Israel, and assures a vibrant Jewish future.

House Bill 188 would create the Ohio-Israel Trade and Innovation Partnership, an initiative that aligns with the Federation's longstanding commitment to building bridges between Ohio and Israel. This legislation recognizes the immense potential of collaboration in areas such as technology, infrastructure, academic exchange, and economic development.

Israel is a world leader in innovation, particularly in sectors like cybersecurity, water technology, agriculture, and medical research. Ohio, with its diverse economy and world-class institutions, is well-positioned to benefit from deeper engagement with Israeli counterparts. HB 188 would provide a structured, bipartisan forum to explore and expand these opportunities.

We are especially encouraged by the composition of the Partnership, which ensures representation from the legislature, higher education, business, and Jewish communities. This reflects a thoughtful understanding of the diverse stakeholders who can contribute to and benefit from this initiative.

The Jewish Federation of Cincinnati has long supported programs that connect Ohio and Israel through commerce, culture, and education. We believe HB 188 will amplify these efforts and generate meaningful economic returns for our state, making Ohio more competitive for decades to come.

We thank Representatives Hall and Synenberg for their leadership in introducing this bill and urge the committee to advance it. Thank you for your time and consideration. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions.

Danielle V. Minson, CEO, Jewish Federation of Cincinnati

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