60th House District:

Part of Delaware County

Columbus Office:

Vern Riffe Center 77 S. High Street 11th Floor Columbus, Ohio

Contact:

(614) 644-6711 Rep60@ohiohouse.gov Ohio House of Representatives

Committees:

Vice Chair: Development
Insurance
Local Government
Transportation

Brian Lorenz State Representative

Chair Hall, Vice Chair Ferguson, Ranking Member Humphrey, and esteemed members of the Ohio House Government Oversight Committee. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of House Bill 238. This legislation amends parking requirements to improve fairness and accessibility in the state of Ohio.

House Bill 238 builds upon the foundational work of House Bill 442 from the 135th General Assembly, which aimed to modernize parking regulations. House Bill 442 would have required that parking authorities accept multiple payment methods.

Currently, different areas across the state have different payment methods at parking meters and at any given time an individual may not have that specific payment method on hand. For example, Columbus utilizes applications like Park Mobile, which require a smart phone to pay for parking. Beyond needing the proper equipment, users must also download the app and understand how to use it.

Many stores and services accept multiple payment methods, and society has become accustomed to that. We have been moving more and more cashless as a society, but there should still be an option to use cash in addition to using cashless options for parking meters. This bill would make parking meters more accessible to a wider range of Ohioans, while also creating a consistent policy.

Additionally, House Bill 238 aims to protect Ohioans from overburdensome parking regulations. For instance, the bill creates a three-minute buffer period for individuals to pay after parking. It also extends the window to appeal a parking violation. These reforms are designed to streamline parking requirements while protecting citizens from unnecessary fines and charges.

I respectfully ask for your support of House Bill 238 and welcome any questions you may have.

Thank you.