



STATE OF OHIO
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Good afternoon, thank you Chair Hall, Vice Chair Ferguson, Ranking Member Humphrey, and all members of the House Government Oversight Committee for allowing me to speak on this piece of legislation and thank you to my joint sponsor Rep. Lorenz for presenting this bill alongside me. House bill 238 addresses several issues that have been raised by constituents regarding their experiences with parking and the enforcement of parking regulations.

As some of you are aware, many cities in Ohio have moved to online payments for parking. Usually this is in the form of an app one must download on a mobile device. While this may be convenient and a quick way to pay parking fees, making the payment process exclusively online is a hindrance to many others. Not everyone in Ohio has or wants to own a mobile device, and many of our senior citizens struggle to navigate mobile technology. As it currently stands, individuals who do not have a mobile device or struggle to use mobile devices are unable to park in metropolitan areas. These areas often include vital resources such as courthouses, jobs and family services locations, and medical care facilities. This bill would ensure that there are other ways to pay parking fees, including cash, coin, credit card, quick response code, or any other method that the Director of Public Safety deems sufficient. This way, people who do not or cannot use a mobile device can still park.



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Another major point of contention raised by citizens, is overzealous ticketing. Many individuals have reported receiving a parking citation immediately after parking or while actively attempting to pay for parking. Unlike coin metering where as soon as you pay, your time is displayed, when using mobile pay parking systems, you are subject to issues such as slow or absent internet, system errors, or delays in payment processing. All these issues can and have resulted in unjust parking citations. Many have complained that they used an app to pay for parking, only for the system to not log it or register it, thus they return to a ticket on their windshield, despite the fact they paid for their parking. Another scenario involves the need to extend parking time. Constituents have reported that they were in the process of adding more time to their parking when they received a ticket.

In both cases, it is absurd that one should receive a ticket, especially in a situation where they have no control over how fast the system processes their payment. So, to combat these cases of overzealous ticketing, this bill essentially adds a three-minute grace period. If a ticket is issued within three minutes of an individual parking or paying for parking, the ticket must be rescinded. Failure to comply with this section will constitute the ticket being thrown out.

Overall, this is a commonsense piece of legislation that seeks to solve an everyday problem. This legislation will simplify the parking payment process across Ohio and will

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create a 3-minute grace period in paid parking zones. With that I respectfully ask for your support in moving this legislation forward, and I am happy to answer any questions.