

**65<sup>th</sup> House District:**

Part of Ashtabula County  
Part of Trumbull County

**Committees:**

Ways and Means, Vice Chair  
Arts, Athletics and Tourism  
Energy  
Public Insurance and Pensions



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**David Thomas**  
**State Representative for the 65<sup>th</sup> House District**

**Testimony before the Ohio House Local Government Committee March 5, 2025 on H.B. 123**

Chair King, Vice Chair Kishman, Ranking Member Sims, and members of the House Local Government Committee. Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Rep. Johnson and my legislation to streamline the process of local government transitions of power. Thank you to Rep. Johnson for drafting this bill and allowing me to join him.

I do not have much more to add to Representative Johnson's testimony except that I myself have experienced this occurrence many times as a local government official at the Township and County level for nine years. This bill with the provisions to allow the will of the people to be enacted sooner, just makes sense. It would have helped in several situations in my home county and I am sure across Ohio to make the transition smoother, faster, and most importantly, reflective of the voter's intent.

And best of all, should the eventual office holder not wish to begin their term earlier, the bill provides that they do not have to start, and the process will be as normal.

I thank you for your time and consideration and am happy to take questions.