



**Representative Tex Fischer**  
**59<sup>th</sup> Ohio House District**

Chair Abrams, Vice Chair Miller, Ranking Member Thomas, and members of the House Public Safety Committee, thank you for allowing me to provide sponsor testimony on House Bill 26, the Protecting Ohio Communities Act. If enacted, this bill will incentivize local governments to cooperate with federal immigration enforcement by subjecting them to a 10% reduction of Local Government Funds if they are found to be obstructing federal immigration law.

As we all know, there has been a crisis of mass illegal immigration into our country over the past several years. Over a five-year period from 2019 to 2014, over 11 million individuals have illegally entered the United States. It was one of the main points of emphasis this past fall in the election, and Ohioans spoke loudly and clearly on election day that the status quo on illegal immigration was unacceptable. Ohioans will not tolerate our state being a place where these laws are difficult to enforce because of these “Sanctuary Cities” or “Welcoming Cities” that are prioritizing illegal immigrants over their own citizens.

The Protecting Ohio Communities Act will protect our hardest-working Ohioans and their families from the harmful effects of illegal immigration. We cannot have a system where communities that intentionally defy federal law are treated equally to those who work to enforce our reasonable immigration laws to the best of their abilities. Thank you for allowing me to provide sponsor testimony for you today, and I am happy to answer any questions you may have.

**Committees:**

General Government – Vice Chair  
Energy  
Development  
Natural Resources

**[www.ohiohouse.gov](http://www.ohiohouse.gov)**  
**77 S. High Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215-6111**

**Contact Information:**

Office: 614-466-6107  
FAX: 614-719-3959  
Email: [rep59@ohiohouse.gov](mailto:rep59@ohiohouse.gov)