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Kevin D. Miller
State Representative

To: Ohio House Public Safety Committee
From: Representative Kevin Miller
Date: October 29th, 2025

House Bill 533 Sponsor Testimony

Chair Abrams, Ranking Member Thomas, and members of the House Public Safety committee, thank you for the opportunity to give sponsor testimony on House Bill 533.

HB 533 is a very simple and straightforward piece of legislation that aims to update the vehicular homicide and vehicular assault statutes to include additional vehicles commonly found operating on our roadways. The need for this legislation was brought forward by prosecutors who found themselves unable to prosecute an individual who had caused the death of another person while operating a golf cart.

Golf carts, while legally operated on municipal roadways around the state, do not qualify under the current statute for vehicular homicide and assault. Under current law, these sections are primarily limited to motor vehicles, motorcycles, and a limited list of other vehicles. HB 533 corrects this deficiency by including vehicles such as golf carts, motorized bicycles and mopeds, motor scooters and all-purpose vehicles under the definitions for vehicular homicide and vehicular assault.

It's important to note that HB 533 does not create any additional offenses or increase penalties, it just ensures the Ohio Revised Code better reflects the range of modern modes of transportation. Anyone operating these vehicles has the obligation to do so in a safe and responsible manner. If they fail to do so and cause the injury or death of another, they should be held accountable for their actions.

Chair Abrams, Ranking Member Thomas and members of the committee, thank you again for allowing me to provide testimony on HB533, I'm happy to answer any questions you may have.