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**Joe Miller****State Representative - District 53**

I would first like to thank Chair Claggett, Vice Chair Workman, Ranking Member Mohamed, and the members of the House Technology and Innovation Committee for allowing my colleague and I to speak in support of HB 78.

Last July, Governor DeWine announced that Ohio driver's licenses and IDs can now be added to Apple Wallets, authorizing their use at TSA checkpoints and at select businesses. While this is a great step towards modernizing our identification system in Ohio, adding more functions to digital licenses will complement other digital practices so many of us use today, such as digital payment systems, boarding passes, and tickets. HB 78 would build on this progress by enabling digital licenses to be used in a broader range of everyday situations.

The bill would require the Registrar of Motor Vehicles to establish a program that provides for the use of a digital ID by Ohio residents, including mechanisms to ensure that any information transmitted by the BMV to either the mobile app or the digital ID is encrypted and protected in accordance with reasonable security standards broadly available and cannot be intercepted. In addition, the bill would establish a mechanism by which the Registrar of Motor Vehicles receives images, including the licensee taking a selfie to verify their identity and the validity of the license or ID card. In order to accept a digital ID, the requestor of the ID must have the means and authorization to accept and validate it.

Additionally, HB 78 would allow for the Registrar of Motor Vehicles to accept all smartphone types to support digital licenses and IDs in addition to the Governor's initiative, which currently allows for only Apple products.

By supporting this bill, you will be taking a significant step toward meeting the needs of Ohioans in an increasingly digital society while maintaining security measures for sensitive information. Thank you again for allowing me to speak in support of House Bill 78, I will now turn it over to Representative Hall.