

Columbus Office

Vern Riffe Center
77 S. High Street
12th Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215-6111
(614) 644-5094
Rep46@ohiohouse.gov



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Thomas Hall
State Representative

February 25th, 2025

Good morning Chair Claggett, Vice Chair Workman, Ranking Member Mohamed and members of the House Technology and Innovation Committee. Thank you for allowing us to speak on behalf of House Bill 78.

This is an obvious next step to further expand a program to make the lives of Ohioans easier while still maintaining the level of security and protection that our constituents demand. We are following dozens of other states that have either previously implemented this program or are currently in the process of doing so. Security is the number one focus when looking to further implement this process so I will detail some of the final provisions that address this issue.

Under the bill, in order to qualify for a digital ID, a person must maintain a valid physical ID card simultaneously. This prevents any possible conflicts with the federal REAL ID Act. Additionally, in order to verify the validity of the digital ID, the Registrar of Motor Vehicles must have a process in place to identify expired, suspended, or revoked licenses. Finally, the Registrar will be permitted to introduce additional procedures or requirements they deem necessary to ensure the general privacy and security of the data and images exchanged through this program.

This bill is just another way that we can provide the people of Ohio the flexibility and ease that something such as apple pay provides. Digital ID is a safe and effective way to pass on important information without jeopardizing safety and security.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify before you all today in support of HB 78, we are happy to answer any questions.