

91st House District

Highland County
Fayette County
Pike County
Ross County

Columbus Office

Vern Riffe Center
77 S. High St
11th Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215-6111
(614) 466-3506
Rep91@ohiohouse.gov



Committees

Chairman
Public Insurance and
Pensions

Agriculture

Energy

Insurance

Bob Peterson State Representative

Sponsor Testimony H. B. 413

Chairman Claggett, Vice Chair Workman, Ranking Member Mohamed, and other members of the House Technology and Innovation Committee, I thank you for the opportunity to give sponsor testimony on House Bill 413. Representative Young and I stand before you today to speak on the important topic of transparency and accountability in government. Ohioans, now more than ever, need the ability to see exactly where their tax money is allocated.

This is a simple bill that requires political subdivisions to enter both their expenditure information and their revenues on The Ohio Checkbook site for public review. It seems very simple that, in a world where most people struggle to have faith in their government, that we should open more pathways for citizens to review and understand where their money goes. This is an easy and quick way for counties, cities, villages, etc. to provide more information to the people they serve; increasing the trust that citizens have with the organizations that are serving them.

We understand that this may take time for some political subdivisions to enter the required information into the database, but in the end, we feel it is worth it. The Ohio Treasurer is committed to making it as easy as possible to join the Ohio checkbook. The office will be glad to assist public entities, especially our smallest villages and townships. Public records, including those about expenditures and revenues, are one way that citizens can be actively engaged in their local government entities by giving their Checkbook a check-up.

On behalf of the constituents of the 91st House District of Ohio, I strongly support this bill and encourage you to think about your own constituents and if you believe they would benefit in any way from accessing the expenditure and revenue information of the political subdivisions that they reside in. Thank you for the opportunity to provide sponsor testimony. We would be happy to answer any questions at this time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bob Peterson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish at the end.

Bob Peterson
State Representative
Ohio's 91st House District