



# OHIO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

March 2, 2026

Representative Thad Claggett  
Chair, House Technology and Innovation Committee  
Ohio House of Representatives  
1 Capitol Square  
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Dear Chairman Claggett:

My name is Justin Barnes, and I'm the Vice President of Government Affairs for the Ohio Chamber of Commerce. As you may know, for over 133 years, the Ohio Chamber has served as the state's leading business advocate, and we represent over 8,000 companies that do business in Ohio. Our mission is to aggressively champion free enterprise, economic competitiveness, and growth for the benefit of all Ohioans. As part of our mission, we seek to make Ohio the best place in the country for businesses to operate and grow.

I write to provide the perspective of the Ohio Chamber of Commerce regarding House Bill 650, which seeks to establish a commission focused on developments in the realm of quantum computing and frontier technologies. As amended, the legislation would require members of the commission to determine if a permanent study commission is needed, as well as make recommendations to the General Assembly regarding the need for possible regulations impacting the quantum and frontier technologies in Ohio. Those recommendations could include economic and workforce impact, ethical standards, and security and infrastructure resilience.

We understand the desire to make this commission a work product of the Ohio General Assembly, but do not want experts and industry representatives, who understand the technical and development landscape better than almost anyone, to miss out on the opportunity to provide direct feedback as members of the commission. While we recognize that the commission can invite testimony from experts, the amended bill removes the opportunity for the Governor to appoint industry representatives to the commission.

We want to thank Representative Workman for her leadership on this issue and as sponsor of this legislation. The advancements made possible through the development of quantum and frontier technologies can and will continue to contribute to Ohio's economic success, with the potential to unleash significant benefits for Ohioans. We look forward to working with you to support this field of research.

Thank you again for the opportunity to provide input on House Bill 650.

Best,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Justin Barnes".

Justin Barnes  
Vice President, Government Affairs  
Ohio Chamber of Commerce