

House Bill 258 – Proponent Testimony

Chair Willis, Vice Chair Daniels, Ranking Member Grim, and honorable members of the House Transportation Committee, thank you for allowing me to submit proponent testimony on House Bill 258 to change the notification period for driver's license expiration. My name is Bryan Comstock, and I am a resident of Mason, OH.

Last year, while traveling out of state, my family encountered a major problem when I tried to pick up our rental car. The attendant informed me my Ohio driver's license had expired, preventing me from renting or driving. Thankfully, my wife was able to secure a new rental, but we lost money on the original booking because it couldn't be transferred. I was unaware my license had expired, as renewals are infrequent (every four-plus years), and unlike vehicle registrations, I received no advance notification from the state of Ohio. Many other states provide warnings before a license expires, and implementing this in Ohio would prevent frustrating situations like mine. I can only imagine the difficulty for travelers without a second driver or the issues an expired license could cause in other scenarios beyond car rentals.

Chairman and members of the committee, thank you again for your consideration of this bill, and I urge its passage.