



**Proponent Testimony Provided by
David Cordonnier, Manager of Engagement, Dayton Development Coalition
on House Bill 434
Ohio House Transportation Committee
Proponent Testimony – October 7, 2025**

Chair Willis, Vice-Chair Daniels, Ranking Member Grim, and members of the House Transportation Committee, thank you for the opportunity to present proponent testimony on House Bill 434, exempting military driver's license applicants from new driver's education requirements.

The Dayton Development Coalition is a regional economic development organization whose mission is to support job creation and opportunity for the citizens of the Dayton Region. In addition, the Dayton Development Coalition works closely with aerospace and defense partners to promote Wright-Patterson Air Force Base and the Springfield Air National Guard Base.

We commend Representative Willis and Representative Lampton for sponsoring this important piece of legislation supporting our military and foreign military partners. The legislation would create an exemption from the driver's education requirements for a person that possesses a valid, unexpired visa issued by the U.S. Department of State, possesses a valid, unexpired foreign driver's license, and the person presents a completed form, as prescribed by the Ohio Registrar of Motor Vehicles, attesting to the person's relationship with either the U.S. Military, the U.S. Department of Defense, or any of the Department of Defense's subordinate agencies.

The bill especially impacts the Foreign Military Sales (FMS) program at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base (WPAFB). This program is managed by the Air Force Security Assistance and Cooperation Directorate (AFSAC) which is a unit within the Air Force Life Cycle Management Center (AFLCMC). This program supports international partners by managing the acquisition, delivery, and sustainment of U.S. defense articles, services, and training, to countries worldwide. According to AFLCMC, AFSAC manages a portfolio worth over \$305 billion with nearly 100 partner nations.

Representatives of these foreign military partners are stationed at WPAFB for multiple years often bringing their immediate family with them. They work and live in our communities contributing to the local economy every day. House Bill 54, the Transportation Budget for FY 2026-27, passed earlier this year, made changes in applying for a driver's license, but unintentionally made it more difficult for those representatives. House Bill 434, with the emergency clause, can quickly remedy the issue.

It is important to note that the FMS program is primarily funded through the international contracts with no taxpayer funding used for most operations. During a time when we are looking for ways that the government can generate revenue without costing the taxpayer, the FMS program stands out as a strong example of efficiency.

In closing, House Bill 434 may seem like a small fix, but passage of the bill will greatly impact our foreign military partners, assist the FMS program, and help the Air Force at WPAFB. It is a small but important way our State can show support for the Air Force and its missions base here. Thank you for your consideration of House Bill 434 and I urge your support.