



Representatives Roy Klopfenstein

82nd House District

Chairman Roemer, Vice Chair Thomas, Ranking Member Troy, and members of the Ways and Means Committee, we appreciate the opportunity to offer sponsor testimony on House Bill 87.

As a grandparent and proud parent of four boys, I understand firsthand how costly raising a child can be. According to the Peterson-Kaiser Family Foundation, the average cost of having a baby and postpartum care is \$18,865, and that doesn't even include essential items like diapers, formula, clothes, and bedding—just a few of the many expenses young parents face before their child is even born.

This bill acknowledges these financial challenges by allowing parents to claim the child tax credit in the year a child is conceived, rather than waiting until the year they are born. While this won't cover all the overwhelming costs parents encounter, it will offer much-needed relief to the parents of over 100,000 children born in Ohio each year.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide sponsor testimony, and I respectfully ask for your support of this important legislation.