



OHIO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

April 8, 2025

Representative Bill Roemer
Chair, House Ways and Means Committee
Ohio House of Representatives
1 Capitol Square
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Dear Chairman Roemer:

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 130 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 in support of House Bill 100, which provides for non-profit organizations that sell donated items to apply for a grant based on a percentage of their state sales tax revenue. The grants supplied are then used for workforce development programs run by these non-profit organizations to bolster labor force participation among disadvantaged populations.

We want to thank Representatives Santucci and Rogers for their work on this legislation. Programs like this are an innovative solution, providing increased capacity for these non-profit organizations, which all serve their local communities by providing job opportunities, skills training, and a sense of belonging and community support for those who might otherwise not engage in the workforce.

Thank you again for the opportunity to provide support for House Bill 100.

Best,

Justin Barnes
Vice President, Government Affairs
Ohio Chamber of Commerce