

65th House District:

Part of Ashtabula County
Part of Trumbull County

Committees:

Ways and Means, Vice Chair
Arts, Athletics and Tourism
Energy
Public Insurance and Pensions



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H.B. 540 Sponsor Testimony Before the Ohio House Ways & Means Committee on October 29, 2025

Chair Roemer, Ranking Member Troy, and fellow members of the House Ways & Means Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify on HB 540. Thank you to Rep. Pizzulli for asking me to join him in this research and legislation.

My only addition to Rep. Pizzulli's comments are that we all know we have a growing issue for exempt and carved out property in Ohio. Every community is different for what this looks like. For one of Rep. Pizzulli's counties and portions of my district, land that is owned by non-profits, conserved for a good purpose but not contributing to the tax rolls and preventing the growth of a community and tax base, is a significant issue. In other areas, it is business abatements or traditional non-profit exemptions that cause the same issue.

I want to treat this bill and concept as a test case, to see how best to balance the need for conservation and tax incentives, with the need to have as broad a base, and low a rate as possible. This bill is targeted, purposefully, to help us as a legislature dive into the issue and help Rep. Pizzulli's county with the most egregious example of this problem.

I am happy to take questions and am grateful for the opportunity, Chair Roemer.