



Greater Cleveland  
Regional Transit Authority

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**Testimony of the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority  
Ohio Senate Finance Committee  
Written Testimony on Amended Substitute House Bill 96  
June 6, 2025 – 9:00 AM**

Chair Cirino, Vice Chair Chavez, Ranking Member Hicks-Hudson, and members of the Senate Finance Committee:

The Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority (GCRTA) would like to thank the members of the Senate Finance Committee for your leadership and thoughtful deliberation as the Main Operating Budget process continues.

We are especially grateful that the Committee chose to retain the General Revenue Fund (GRF) appropriation for public transit and to remove the proposed language that would have negatively impacted student transfers at central transit hubs. These decisions reflect a strong commitment to ensuring that public transportation systems across Ohio can continue connecting residents to school, work, healthcare, and other essential services.

We recognize that all areas of the budget are subject to difficult decisions. We appreciate that funding for GCRTA and OPTA member agencies has, so far, been maintained in the substitute bill of House Bill 96, and we are grateful for your recognition of the role transit plays—not only as a vital service, but as a catalyst for mobility innovation that supports workforce access, business growth, and community vitality across the state.

Sincerely,

India L. Birdsong Terry  
General Manager & Chief Executive Officer  
Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority