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Senate General Government Committee Senate Bill 90 Sponsor Testimony

Senator Cutrona:

Chair Roegner, Vice Chair Gavarone, Ranking Member Blackshear, and members of the Senate General Government Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide sponsor testimony on Senate Bill 90, alongside my joint-sponsor, Senator Lang.

Senate Bill 90 creates a universal regulatory sandbox program within Ohio's Common Sense Initiative office (CSI), which would allow individuals to obtain limited access to the markets in Ohio, to test their products or services, without obtaining any other licensure or authorization that would typically be required. With the removal of these barriers that, at times, inhibit the ability of businesses to grow their new products and services, we will help to put Ohio on the forefront of business innovation.

This legislation also creates a regulatory relief office within CSI, that is responsible for administering this program and acting as a liaison between private businesses and state agencies, to identify laws or regulations that could be waived or suspended under the universal regulatory sandbox program. The regulatory relief office may identify state laws and regulations that unnecessarily inhibit innovation and provide recommendations to modify these laws to the governor and general

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assembly. It may also create a framework to analyze the risk to consumers of permanently or temporarily removing these laws.

Senator Lang:

The regulatory relief office may also propose reciprocity agreements between the State of Ohio and other states that use or are proposing to use similar universal regulatory sandbox programs. We believe that, as created in this legislation, the regulatory relief office will be effective in pinpointing laws that can be temporarily removed for the growth of businesses or may be deemed unnecessary, altogether. We have also created, in this legislation, the universal regulatory sandbox program advisory committee which consists of business leaders as well as representation from state agencies and the legislature.

The bill also directs the Common Sense Initiative office to annually submit a report on the activities of the regulatory relief office to the general assembly, which will include information about the program and its participants, as well as suggested changes to laws or the program itself. This legislation, if passed, will not only create an environment in Ohio that fosters innovation rather than overregulating it, but will also allow us to see, through real examples, what laws may be doing more harm than good to our economy.

The creation of the universal regulatory sandbox program and regulatory relief office will allow us to continue to make Ohio the most business-friendly state in the country.

Thank you again for the opportunity for Senator Cutrona and I to provide sponsor testimony on Senate Bill 90, and I would be happy to answer any questions, that you may have at this time.