



**Written Testimony Provided by
Mr. Jeff Hoagland, President and CEO, Dayton Development Coalition
on Senate Bill 24
Ohio Senate Government Oversight and Reform Committee
Proponent Testimony – February 12, 2025**

Chair Manchester, Vice-Chair Brenner, Ranking Member Weinstein, and members of the Senate Government Oversight and Reform Committee, thank you for the opportunity to present written proponent testimony on Senate Bill 24, establishing the 1905 Wright Flyer III as the state airplane.

The Dayton Development Coalition is a regional economic development organization whose mission is to support job creation and opportunity for the citizens of the Dayton Region. In addition, the Dayton Development Coalition works closely with aerospace and defense partners to promote Wright-Patterson Air Force Base and the Springfield Air National Guard Base.

We commend Senator Steve Huffman and Senator Terry Johnson for sponsoring this important piece of legislation celebrating the history of not only Dayton, but of the entire State of Ohio. Dayton is the birthplace of aviation where the Wright brothers imagined the impossible, ultimately creating an invention that would change the world. The 1905 Wright Flyer III is the world's first practical airplane and Orville Wright considered it the most important aircraft the Wright brothers built.

Much has been done to preserve the history of flight in the Dayton Region. Since 1950, Dayton's own Carillon Historical Park has displayed the 1905 Wright Flyer III for visitors from all over the world. In 2004, Congress designated the National Aviation Heritage Area (NAHA) to promote aviation and aerospace heritage and to preserve the legacy of the Wright brothers for future generations. The NAHA spans eight counties and includes historical aviation sites such as the National Museum of the United States Air Force, Huffman Prairie Flying Field, and Orville Wright's home, Hawthorn Hill.

Ohio continues to innovate in aviation with companies like Anduril, Sierra Nevada Corporation, GE Aerospace, Joby Aviation, and the work happening every day at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base. While the industry continues to grow, we must do everything we can to remember where we came from and the difference two brothers from Dayton made in the world today.

Thank you for your consideration of Senate Bill 24 and we urge your support.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jeff Hoagland', written in a cursive style.

Jeffrey C. Hoagland
President and CEO