Testimony of Quinn Allen, President
Ohio Bar Owners Association
in support of HB 94
before the Ohio Senate Higher Education Committee
February 18, 2026

Chair Timken, Vice Chair Roegner, ranking member Ingram and members of the Senate Higher Education Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Senate Bill 94 today.

My name is Quinn Allen and I am the owner of the Library Bar and The Thirsty Scholar in the heart of Ohio State's campus. I also own the Vic Village Tavern, and my family owns Zeno's and Dick's Dive in Victorian Village. I am the current President of the Ohio Bar Owners Association, which is a trade association made up of individuals who own bars across the state of Ohio. I am testifying today in support of Senate Bill 94.

Forcing business owners to broadcast games from a streaming service poses several problems. Famously, over the last few years, several Ohio State football games have been broadcast exclusively on streaming services. Due to my proximity to Ohio state's campus, all of our establishments serve as gathering places for both home and away games with large crowds present to watch the games.

When games are only offered on a streaming service, broadcasting the game inside my business to a large group becomes nearly impossible. Not only is it very hard to find a commercial provider for the game feed, but their third-party system, if any, is all over the place. Sometimes requiring the purchase of streaming boxes for a single use, and others, a subscription to a third-party sports network source that would only be valuable for the one time use, while being forced to pay the entire subscription. Along with those hurdles, our system, like many commercial establishments, is set up to run games on multiple sets with stereo sound throughout the entire building, however, when a game is broadcast

only on a streaming service, we are limited to showing the game on only one screen, or if multiple screens, the feeds do not run in sync with each other, or any sound we can provide from the individual sets. This causes a horrible experience (if we are able to provide any at all), and it is impossible to link to the in-house sound system. In our business, atmosphere is paramount, and these game days for ourselves and many others throughout the state, are our biggest days of the year. So, when we can't provide the viewing experience we are known for, it makes us take a substantial financial hit as many people are driven into their homes for games, when they know they are streaming, instead of out to the bars.

It is nearly impossible to plan ahead for such a broadcast as the streaming only option is generally not announced until the week of the game, providing little time to prepare. This also makes third party options, which by themselves are a dumpster fire, impossible due to their inability to ship equipment out to locations and have them arrive on time.

I and others in the Ohio Bar Owners Association agree with the sponsor of Senate Bill 94 that a public university that is funded with state funds should broadcast games in a way that is accessible to more people than simply subscribers to the streaming platforms.

As a business close to the university, customers expect us to show Ohio State games. Limiting the broadcast to streaming platforms does not allow us to provide access to the games throughout our entire establishment. While our customers understand that the decision was made at the university level, it still inhibits our ability to provide the experience our customers have come to expect.

On behalf of my company and the Ohio Bar Owners Association. I urge your support of Senate Bill 94

Thank you for your time today. I am happy to answer questions.