

Ohio Senate Transportation Committee
Substitute HB 54

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President & Executive Director

Good morning, Chairman Patton, Vice Chair Schaffer, Ranking Member Antonio and members of the House Finance Committee, I am Tom Rozsits, President & Executive Director of Ohio Concrete.

I am here to request that the committee reinstate the original language that the House included in Substitute HB 54 regarding ODOT's pavement selection process. The recent changes may require the advisory council to review issues that are not relevant to both types of pavement materials. We would prefer to maintain the original language from the 2003 process.

I would also like to emphasize that the language does not remove any engineering considerations from the road construction process in Ohio, nor does it require the use of asphalt or concrete pavement. Instead, it simply calls for ODOT to review its current procedures and implement those improvements to ensure that pavement selection comparisons are consistent and comparable.

Concrete has long been known as a durable and minimal maintenance paving product. Its longevity and cost-effectiveness has been biased by ODOT's designers for the last decade. As we focus on rebuilding and improving Ohio's roadways, it is crucial to prioritize long-term durability and the optimal use of tax dollars. This approach will promote a more balanced and effective selection process for pavement materials.

Thank you for the opportunity to address the committee and I would be happy to answer any questions that the committee members might have.