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Sponsor Testimony

Senate Bill 280

Senate Transportation Committee

October 29th, 2025

Chairman Patton, Vice Chair Schaffer, Ranking Member Antonio, and members of the Senate Transportation Committee: Thank you for the opportunity to provide sponsor testimony on Senate Bill 280.

This legislation is a reintroduction of something I worked on all the way back in the 132nd GA, which would have designated the High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicle as a historic vehicle in the State of Ohio. In preparation for this bill's reintroduction, I have been in contact with the United States Environmental Protection Agency, and they have assured me that there are no current federal regulations that would restrict any Humvees from the road.

Since its first introduction in 1985, the High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicle (HMMWV or Humvee) has seen widespread use with the United States military. The Humvee proved to be an invaluable asset to the United States during its combat debut for the invasion of Panama in 1989. It was then seen and more widely implemented during the Gulf War, as well as seeing continual service throughout the War on Terror. The Humvee is a cornerstone of U.S. military operations, symbolizing innovation, resilience, and adaptability. Its iconic design and contributions to national defense make it a worthy candidate for historical vehicle status.

The Humvee holds a unique status as the direct successor of the "Willys Jeep", another iconic military vehicle used in WWII. Although there are

some Humvees on the market that certainly exceed the 25 year age requirement, there are still many Humvee models that are more recent in their production by the United States military, not yet meeting that historic threshold. By allowing the Humvee to circumvent this current restriction, the State of Ohio can finally give this specific vehicle the notoriety it is so deserving.

By allowing the historic tag registration through Ohio's BMV, I hope to inspire and motivate Ohio's citizens to get their own. I want to see more of these renowned Humvees appear alongside Willys Jeeps and 2 and 1/2 Ton Trucks present at many of our local patriotic parades.

Thank you again for your time and attention. I will be happy to answer any questions you may have.