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Senate Workforce Development Committee
Senate Bill 50 — Sponsor Testimony
Tuesday, February 11, 2025

Chairman Koehler, Vice Chair Reynolds, Ranking Member Ingram, and members of the Senate Workforce Development Committee, thank you for the opportunity to present sponsor testimony on Senate Bill 50.

I have already spoken about Senate Concurrent Resolution 3, which urges Congress to expand the range of time that 14- and 15-year-olds can work until 9 PM year-round in Ohio with their parents' consent with no increase in total hours. Senate Bill 50 enshrines this change into Ohio law.

As I mentioned previously, this legislation states clearly that if a 14- or 15-year-old wishes to work until 9 PM during the school year, he or she must have the approval of their parent or legal guardian and a school administrator.

This bill does not propose changing the total hours the 14- & 15-year-olds can work--18 in a week--nor does it change the maximum hours he or she can work in a day--3 hours only.

10 states currently have this policy in place with four other states having a similar policy in place.

Additionally, this bill ensures that the allowed working hours are listed on the 14- or 15-year old's work permit. Other than that change, this is precisely the same bill as Senate Bill 251, which passed unanimously out of the Senate in the 134th General Assembly when Senator Maharath and I joint sponsored it and currently has the same language as Senate Bill 30, which was passed by the Senate in 135th General Assembly.

Thank you once again Chairman Koehler and members of the committee for the opportunity to present this legislation to you today. I will be glad to answer any questions at this time.