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February 27, 2017

The Honorable Marlene Anielski
Chair, House State & Local Government Committee
Ohio House of Representatives
77 S. High St.
Columbus, OH 43215

Dear Chair Anielski,

On behalf of the nearly 8,000 members of the Ohio Chamber of Commerce, I would like to express our support for House Bill 31, legislation that would eliminate the Government Contracting Advisory Council. The Ohio Chamber president is, by statute, a member of this committee.

The Council was created in 2005, and is charged with reviewing and making recommendations for adoption, amendment or repeal of rules adopted by the Attorney General regarding accountability requirements for certain contracts between government offices and private entities as described in ORC Sec. 9.231(A)(1).

The Council must meet once every two years. However, the ORC Sec. 9.231(A)(1) requirements of a written contract and financial accountability practices are now well-integrated into public-sector contracting in Ohio. Further, at a previous meeting of the Council, members voted to recommend its discontinuation.

In light of these facts, the Ohio Chamber believes the Government Contracting Advisory Council has completed its assigned task and no longer serves a necessary or useful purpose. We encourage the House State & Local Government Committee to favorably report House Bill 31. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Keith Lake". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Keith Lake
Vice President, Government Affairs

cc: Rep. Bob Cupp