



June 2, 2020

Ohio House Finance Committee
77 S. High Street, #12,
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Sent via email address: rep48@ohiohouse.gov, rep61@ohiohouse.gov, rep92@ohiohouse.gov;
rep96@ohiohouse.gov

RE: Written Testimony in Support of SB 310

Dear Chairman Oelslager, Chairman Callender, Vice Chairman Scherer, and Ranking Member Cera:

I am writing to you all today to urge your urgent passage of Senate Bill 310 so our city can access the dollars passed in the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act to cover our costs related to the COVID-19 pandemic. By sending this first disbursement of \$350 million to Ohio's local governments, Dublin can begin the process of recovery from the initial hit COVID-19 took on our city.

The City of Dublin has spent approximately \$800,000 in COVID-19 related expenditures to date with additional expenditures expected as the City re-opens its buildings and recreation facilities. Dublin has seen an increase in operating expenditures for information technology related purchases in order to continue to provide essential services to our residents while working remotely. The City has also encountered additional expenditures for supplies including personal protective equipment (PPE), sanitization products, gloves, etc. for our first responders ensuring the safety of our community and for use inside our facilities to maintain a safe environment for our employees working on-site. Additionally, during this difficult economic period, the City is supporting our business community through funding a plan to restart our local economy and providing financial support to non-profit organizations that support our community and have been impacted by the decrease in economic activity related to COVID-19.

Senate Bill 310 will begin to build the bridge to our city and our state's economic recovery by distributing much-needed federal aid to Ohio's local governments. Dublin and Ohio's other communities have been on the frontlines fighting this pandemic, experiencing steep revenue loss while the cost to provide quality local services is increasing. SB 310 will ensure cities, like ours, and counties, and townships get the immediate relief we desperately need now.

Following the passage of SB 310, we also urge you and the members of the Ohio General Assembly to ensure the remaining \$850 million is dedicated and used by Ohio's local governments. As our local budget continues to decrease, these remaining funds will play a key role in the continuing the nation's response to both the COVID-19 pandemic and the economic crisis.

SB 310 is a key link in the continued partnership of the state and local response to the pandemic and to the economic recovery of our residents. Thank you for your leadership and consideration of this important piece of legislation. I urge your swift action on this bill.

Respectfully submitted,



Chris Amorose Groomes
Mayor, City of Dublin