

Representative Shane Wilkin
Chair, House Government Oversight Committee
77 South High Street, 13th Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215
Delivered via email: R.J.Mancini@OhioHouse.gov



October 26, 2021

The Honorable Chair Wilkin,

The OBL is the foremost trade association for the Ohio banking industry – and is Ohio’s only organization focused on meeting the needs of *all banks and thrifts* in the Buckeye State. The non-profit association is comprised of more than 170 FDIC-insured financial institutions including commercial banks, savings banks, and savings and loan associations ranging in size from just over \$13 million in assets to more than \$3.5 trillion and **employing over 60,000 Ohioans**.

On behalf of OBL members, I write to you in support of House Bill 376. Robust data security and privacy standards are critical for all entities that handle sensitive personal and financial information. Preventing incidents like the recent high profile data breaches is imperative for consumers, and also important to Ohio banks who often have the closest relationships with those impacted. Data breaches impose significant costs on everyone, but specifically banks who are already subject to stringent data privacy standards like those contained within the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act. Banks frequently take steps to mitigate problems and protect customer accounts when breaches and data privacy issues occur elsewhere such as issuing new cards or account numbers. It is important that all industry sectors are subject to the same robust standards to protect every Ohioan and every Ohio business.

The Ohio Bankers League appreciates the continued efforts of the entire DeWine Administration, and especially Lt. Governor Husted and InnovateOhio/CyberOhio, to advance Ohio in this area as well as the hard work the sponsors of this bill, Representatives Carfagna and Hall, have put in to get the bill where it is now. For these reasons, we urge you to support House Bill 376. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions regarding our position at dboyd@ohiobankersleague.com or (614) 340-7608.

Sincerely,

Don Boyd
VP, State Government Relations & General Counsel