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Thank you, Chairman Baldrige, Vice-Chairman McClain, Ranking Member Sheehy, and to all the members of the Ohio House Transportation and Public Safety Committee for the opportunity to speak today on behalf of House Bill 220. It is great to speak with you in person.

A native Ohioan, born in Dayton, I now live with my husband in Clermont county. My husband is an Ohio State graduate, and we have two sons in college there now. I was blessed with the opportunity to attend the Capstone College of Nursing at The University of Alabama (UA), graduating in 1998, which prepared me for an exciting job working at St. Mary's Hospital in Rochester, Minnesota, which is part of the Mayo Clinic. Upon returning to Ohio, I worked for the Mercy health system until 2015. I served on the health commission at Immaculate Heart of Mary parish in Anderson township and am currently a member of the Catholic Medical Association with guilds in Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky.

In 2011, I helped establish the Cincinnati chapter of The University of Alabama National Alumni Association (UA NAA), "Crimsonati". I am on their scholarship committee which oversees the awards for two endowed scholarships that were created for Greater Cincinnati/Ohio residents. There are currently 520 Ohio residents enrolled at the UA: 441 undergraduate students and 76 graduate students.

Since 2017 we have awarded scholarships to eight individuals. For every dollar placed into our endowed scholarship fund, the national alumni association matches it at the end of the year. Sometimes by as much as 100%. So, even small contributions can add up quickly.

As of 2020, UA has over 1600 registered alumni in the state of Ohio with even more parents, fans, and friends. We are just short of the required 150 petition signatures due to covid, but we are in the process of personally reaching out to all our supporters over the next few weeks and we expect many positive responses.

The Cincinnati chapter is very active in local charitable efforts as well as support for our students and their families. We even serve local favorites like Grippo's,

Graeter's, and Skyline chili at our gameday tailgates down in Tuscaloosa right beside the President's mansion. We were awarded "best small out-of-state chapter of the year" in 2018.

The UA NAA has participated in license plate programs for many years and has partnerships with eight additional states, including North Carolina and Maryland. New programs are currently in progress in Virginia and Washington, D.C. In addition, the state of Alabama also has a collegiate license plate program. They currently offer five out-of-state collegiate plate options.

I want to graciously thank the members here today that worked on and voted for the University of Notre Dame bill back in 2016, everyone that voted in favor of our bill back in December and I humbly ask for everyone's support today in approving H.B. 220 to move on to the House floor.

Thank you very much. I welcome your thoughts and any questions you may have at this time.

Respectfully,

Mrs. Mikki F. Doerger
Scholarship Committee
Greater Cincinnati Chapter of The University of Alabama National Alumni
Association "Crimson *Ati*"
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