



**BEFORE THE TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
THE OHIO HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
REPRESENTATIVE BRIAN BALDRIDGE, CHAIR**

**HOUSE BILL 292
TESTIMONY OF RACHAEL CARL
THE OHIO MANUFACTURERS' ASSOCIATION**

October 12, 2021

Chairman Baldrige, Vice Chairman McClain, Ranking Member Sheehy, and members of the House Transportation and Public Safety Committee, thank you for the opportunity today to provide proponent testimony on House Bill 292. My name is Rachael Carl, and I am the director of public policy services for The Ohio Manufacturers' Association (OMA). Created in 1910 to advocate for Ohio's manufacturers, the OMA today has approximately 1,300 members statewide. Its mission is to protect and grow Ohio manufacturing.

Ohio is no stranger to auto manufacturing, even electric vehicles (EV). Auto manufacturers are already making great strides in vehicle electrification – to make this technology more efficient, practical, and affordable. Whether through the development of new EV models or collaborations to produce next-generation battery cells, Ohio's automotive industry is pivoting to new ways of doing business.

With electric vehicles changing automotive manufacturing, the Electric Vehicle Commission, as created in House Bill 292, will help position Ohio to retain its dominant role in the future of the automotive industry. By studying critical issues like workforce needs, production capacity, and industry constraints, the commission will be able to better diagnose EV industry needs and adopt state policies and laws to help ensure industry success.

Ohio has invested in the EV industry. From the great work of DriveOhio to the budget's funding for charging stations, Ohio has shown its commitment to ensuring we are a leader in this space. Through the work of this commission, the continued efforts to analyze the industry's needs will only fortify our advantage in auto manufacturing.

As you may know, Ohio is home to many well-established companies in the auto manufacturing supply chain. To ensure that Ohio continues to have a robust auto industry, we must signal our support for the EV revolution. This commission will help pave the way for well-informed, helpful policies that support the growth of not only electric vehicles, but the entire supply chain.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and members of the committee for the opportunity to provide testimony on House Bill 292. I am happy to answer any questions from the committee.