



Tim Schaffer  
20th District

**Ohio Senate**  
Senate Building  
Room 128, First Floor  
Columbus, Ohio 43215  
(614) 466-8076  
sd20@ohiosenate.gov

**Committees:**  
Agriculture & Natural Resources, Chair  
Government Oversight and Reform  
Insurance  
Transportation

## **Senate Government Oversight and Reform Committee Senate Bill 194 — Sponsor Testimony**

Chairman Roegner, Vice Chair McColley, Ranking Member Craig, and members of the Senate Government Oversight and Reform Committee, thank you for the opportunity to present sponsor testimony on Senate Bill 194.

This legislation will recognize June 4<sup>th</sup> as “Katie Smith Day”, in honor of one of Ohio’s all-time greatest athletes and individuals.

Katie holds a long list of accolades for her athletic career. Initially recognized nationally for her talents while at Logan High School as the 1992 Gatorade National Player of the Year, Katie is probably most known in this state for her career at The Ohio State University. When concluding her collegiate career, Katie was the first Ohio State University female athlete to have her number retired, was the Columbus Touchdown Club’s Ohio State Female Athlete of the Century, and was inducted into the Ohio State University Athletics Hall of Fame.

Professionally, Katie’s accolades did not end after her graduation from Ohio State. She was a 1997 and 1998 American Basketball League champion with the Columbus Quest, 2006 and 2008 WNBA champion, a member of the WNBA’s All-Decade Team, and was chosen as one of the WNBA’s top 15 players of all time. Additionally, she won three Olympic gold medals while competing on the 2000, 2004, and 2008 United States women’s basketball team.

It should be of no surprise that Katie now stands enshrined as a member of both the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame and the Women's Basketball Hall of Fame.

Though Katie is still active coaching within the WNBA, she still recognizes the importance of her home state, and especially that of her home town. During the COVID-19 pandemic, Katie came back to Logan to volunteer at food giveaways and gave local children sporting goods. She has also held numerous leadership discussions with students and athletes at Logan High School, encouraging them to stay mentally and physical fit during COVID.

This bill will not only be supported by numerous individuals from Logan who recognize the importance of Katie Smith, but also The Ohio State University and USA Basketball.

Thank you once again, Chairwoman Roegner and the members of the committee, for the opportunity to present this issue to you today. I will be glad to answer any questions at this time.

