



SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE
PROPOPONENT TESTIMONY (WRITTEN ONLY) ON S.B. 25

February 2, 2021

Chair Manning, Vice Chair McColley, Ranking Member Thomas and Senators on the Judiciary Committee:

The Associated General Contractors (AGC) of Ohio and the Ohio Contractors Association (OCA) represent large and small commercial, highway, heavy, utility and industrial construction companies across the state. We appreciate the opportunity to express our support of Senate Bill 25, particularly the language that would prohibit defrauding a drug or urine screening test and ban the sale and use of fake urine for that purpose (R.C. 2925.15).

Every day a construction jobsite drastically changes—as do the occupational exposures and risks, people on the jobsite, and construction activities. Construction workers’ safety is not only dependent on an individual’s skills, training, and mental and physical capabilities, but also of those around them. And with jobsites that can be located alongside highways and major thoroughfares, in tight urban centers, on busy school and office campuses, etc.—contractors are not only responsible for the safety of those on the jobsite, but also for the everyday Ohioans impacted by that project. This is especially true during the COVID-19 pandemic.

AGC of Ohio and OCA members invest significantly in the safety and health of their workforce, and a vital component of those efforts are drug free workplace programs. The ability of individuals to use fake urine to pass a drug screening runs counter to construction employers’ efforts to provide a drug-free, safe workplace to all of their employees, to the workers employed by others on a jobsite, and the general public.

Ohio law requires drug free workplace programs on public improvement projects, yet it does not prohibit individuals from defrauding drug and urine tests. S.B. 25 would rectify that matter. Additionally, eighteen other states, including several of Ohio’s neighboring states, have enacted similar measures.

We urge you to support this commonsense approach to prevent fraudulent drug tests and increase public safety and favorably report S.B. 25.