



Representative Jeff LaRe
77th House District

Representative Gary Click
88th House District

House Bill 35 Sponsor Testimony

Chair Gavarone, Vice-Chair O'Brien, Ranking Member Maharath, and members of the Senate Local Government and Elections Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify today on House Bill 35. This piece of legislation seeks to amend the Ohio Revised Code to allow mayors in the state to solemnize marriages anywhere within the State of Ohio.

Current state statute permits mayors to solemnize marriages in the county in which their municipal corporation wholly or partly lies within. However, the public interest is not served by severely limiting mayors as to where they are permitted to solemnize a marriage. This common-sense legislation would simply amend the Ohio Revised Code to allow mayors to solemnize a marriage anywhere within the State of Ohio; thus allowing a mayor to officiate a wedding at a venue at the

choosing of the engaged couple without being hindered by the current law limitation.

House Bill 35 passed out of the House with bipartisan support. Thank you again for the opportunity to provide testimony on the bill. We are happy to answer any questions you may have at this time.