



OHIO CHAMBER *of* COMMERCE

October 25, 2021

The Honorable Frank Hoagland
Chairman, Ohio Senate Veterans & Public Safety Committee

RE: Letter of Support for House Bill 172

Dear Chairman Hoagland:

On behalf of the Ohio Chamber of Commerce and our thousands of members, I am writing you to lend our support for House Bill 172; legislation that would bring about much-needed revisions and updates to Ohio's laws regarding fireworks.

The Ohio Chamber regularly tackles issues that put forth unfair or uneven restrictions or regulations on the free market. In this circumstance, it is legal to purchase fireworks in Ohio. However, as most of us aware, it is illegal to discharge the fireworks just purchased in Ohio. HB 172 seeks to correct this by legalizing the discharging of fireworks on a limited basis.

We applaud the approach taken in this bill as it strikes a balance between public safety and ensuring that individuals who purchase fireworks in our state are able to legally and safely discharge them. We want to thank Representatives Brian Baldrige and Michael O'Brien for bringing this bill forward as well as Senators Michael Rulli and Terry Johnson for sponsoring the Senate companion bill.

Thank you, Chair Hoagland, for bringing this bill up in an expeditious manner and we urge the committee to favorably support HB 172.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions regarding our support of HB 172 at kboehner@ohiochamber.com or 614-228-4201.

Sincerely,

Kevin Boehner
Director, Small Business and Workforce Policy