



State Representatives Marlene Anielski and Adam Miller
Ohio House Districts 6 and 17

Good Afternoon,

Chairman Johnson, Vice Chair Lanese, Ranking Member Craig, and members of the House Armed Services, Veterans Affairs, and Homeland Security Committee. Rep. Miller and I are here on behalf of veterans in the State of Ohio. House Bill 192 would permit, not require, County Veterans Service Commissions to exercise the option of adding two additional members; First, one who has served their nation in Operation Enduring Freedom or Operation Iraqi Freedom, and second another member who is a military spouse of an active service member.

The goal of the legislation is to give the Veterans Service Commissions the opportunity to expand their membership to reflect the unique challenges and points of view of our most recent veterans. With additional members, the Veterans Service Commissions and its county based outposts will be able to most efficiently respond to the needs of these brave men and women.

For the commissions that make the decision to expand its members, a judge will make these appointments on or before January of 2018 for a term that will expire before the commencement of term beginning in 2020. Only those veterans who have served in Iraq, Afghanistan, and other arenas of conflict can accurately relay to their county and state-wide veteran's services to determine their needs.

Chairman Johnson, Vice Chair Lanese, Ranking Member Craig and the members of the House Armed Services, Veterans Affairs, and Homeland Security Committee, thank you for the opportunity to give sponsor testimony on HB 192. We are happy to answer any questions that the committee might have at this time.