

## **82<sup>ND</sup> HOUSE DISTRICT**

DEFIANCE, PAULDING, AND VAN WERT  
COUNTIES, AND ALSO THE NORTHWEST  
CORNER OF AUGLAIZE COUNTY

### **Committees**

Higher Education and Workforce  
Development; Ways and Means;  
Finance; Armed Services,  
Veterans Affairs, and Homeland  
Security; Economic  
Development, Commerce and  
Labor



## **COLUMBUS OFFICE**

VERN RIFFE CENTER  
77 SOUTH HIGH STREET 11<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR  
COLUMBUS, OH 43215-0253  
PHONE: (614) 644-5091  
REP82@OHIOHOUSE.GOV

## **State Representative Craig S. Riedel Ohio House of Representatives**

Chairman Ryan, Vice Chairman Lipps, Ranking Member Cera, and members of the Finance Committee, thank you for letting me speak to you about the importance of House Bill 721.

The world was transformed on July 20, 1969 when Neil Armstrong took the first step on the moon. It was an achievement for mankind- not because it was easy, as President Kennedy had said, but because it was hard. The Apollo 11 mission is often cited as the greatest accomplishment of the 20th century.

Apollo 11 lasted from July 16, 1969 through Jul 24, 1969 and had a crew of three members: Michael Collins, Buzz Aldrin and Neil Armstrong. Apollo 11 fulfilled a national objective of the United States and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) to be first in putting an American on the moon with hopes of setting a new standard for scientific capabilities of space exploration for years to come.

In the summer of 2019, we will celebrate the 50th anniversary of this monumental achievement. To honor this anniversary, House Bill 721 will simply designate the calendar week that includes July 20th as “One Small Step Week” after Armstrong’s famous quote. This mission is not only renowned in Wapakoneta, Ohio where Armstrong is from, but celebrated across our state and country.

In addition to this great piece of legislation, the State of Ohio, through its investments in the Ohio History Connection, has so far contributed to the 50th anniversary with recent capital allocations for the Armstrong Air & Space Museum. The appropriations include \$1,400,000 for Fiscal Year 17/18 and \$500,000 for Fiscal Year 19/20. These capital funds have gone toward urgent needs in preparation of the 50th Anniversary of the moon landing.

I want to thank the members of the Armstrong Air & Space Museum, Ohio History Connection and the Wapakoneta community for their efforts on this project thus far and hope to continue to assist them in this process. Thank you Chairman Ryan and members of the committee for your time. I urge your support of House Bill 721.