Stephen A. Huffman

80th District

Health Committee *Chair*

Joint Medicaid Oversight Committee *Chair*

Education Committee

Insurance Committee



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Chairwoman Gavarone, Ranking Member Antonio and Members of the House Health committee, thank you for allowing me to give sponsor testimony today for House Bill 252, which would designate January as "Blood Donor Awareness" month in the state of Ohio.

Blood donors provide an essential, life-saving product to hospitals and medical centers across the world every day. According to the American Red Cross, approximately 36,000 units of red blood cells are needed every day in the U.S, and around 6.8 million Americans choose to donate blood every year. Donated blood is used to save the lives of millions of individuals every year. From victims of car accidents to cancer patients undergoing chemotherapy, blood transfusions are critical procedures for survival and could not be accomplished without the charitable action of donating blood.

Like many advantages in our modern world, it is easy to take the availability of blood for granted. That is why it is important for us to recognize blood donors and raise awareness for the lives that can be saved by simply taking an hour out of your day to donate blood.

Chairwoman Gavarone and members of the Health Committee, I thank you for your consideration of this legislation and would be happy to answer any questions you may have at this time.