

**Committees:**

Aging and Long Term Care: Chair  
Finance; Subcommittee on State Government and  
Agency Review  
Economic Development, Commerce & Labor  
State and Local Government



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**Representative Steven Arndt**  
**Ohio House of Representatives, 89<sup>th</sup> House District**

Chair Anielski, Vice-Chair Hambley and members of the Local Government Committee, thank you for giving Representative Gavarone and myself the time to share H.B. 39 with you.

H.B. 39 is a simple and straight-forward public safety bill. This bill's only objective is to provide affected townships with the discretion and the authority to maintain a safe environment for pedestrians wherever and whenever necessary. Additionally, H.B. 39 gives all affected townships the statutory authority needed to insure that if and when sidewalks are installed they are maintained free of snow / ice and trip hazards similar to incorporated communities.

Furthermore, most of the townships that have high snowfall are high in population, with some very urban in nature, like Perkins Township in Erie County near Sandusky. These townships, both urban and rural, have abutting roadways with high vehicle speeds where the only separation between the pedestrians and the motoring public is a sidewalk. Oftentimes, this is the only means in which to insure the safety of the pedestrians from the motorists. This bill will help with speed regulations on motorists so that the walking public is not placed in needless danger.

I want thank this committee, again, for granting us the opportunity to testify about this bill today and I humbly ask that the chair, vice-chair and committee support H.B. 39. This bill will do plenty to give these townships the necessary support they need to keep their roads, sidewalks and residents safe from unnecessary harm.

We will now take questions from the committee.