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www.regionalcouncils.org

April 10, 2018

The Honorable Marlene Anielski, Chair House State & Local Government Committee Ohio House of Representatives Riffe Center – 12<sup>th</sup> Floor 77 S. High Street Columbus, Ohio 43215

Dear Chairwoman Anielski,

On behalf of the Ohio Association of Regional Councils (OARC), I am writing to inform you that the OARC Executive Director's recently voted to *SUPPORT* HB 543, sponsored by Representatives Hambley & Perales, that authorizes a county prosecutor to serve as the legal advisor to regional airport authority's, port authority's, and regional planning commissions. It is our understanding that, although this practice was occurring over the years, the authority for county prosecutors to provide this advice and counsel was not specifically authorized in the Ohio Revised Code. HB 543 will correct this problem and each of these regional entities, if they so choose, may obtain legal services from county prosecutors under a contract approved by the local county commissioners.

The Ohio Association of Regional Councils comprises 24 agencies serving more than 1,500 municipalities, villages, townships and counties and representing over 10 million residents of those communities around the state. Regional councils coordinate and work to streamline statewide services at the regional level, leverage federal resources and serve as stewards of the Ohio's limited resources.

On behalf of the members of the Ohio Association of Regional Councils, we appreciate Rep's Hambley & Perales introducing HB 543, and are pleased to add OARC to those organizations that are supporting this measure.

Akron Metropolitan Area Transportation Study • Bel-O-Mar Regional Council and Interstate Planning Commission • Brooke-Hancock-Jefferson Metropolitan Planning Commission • Buckeye Hills Regional Council • Clark County/Springfield Transportation Coordinating Committee • Eastgate Regional Council of Governments • Erie Regional Planning Commission • Kentucky-Ohio-West Virginia Interstate Planning Commission • KyOVA• Licking County Planning Commission • Lima-Allen County Regional Planning Commission • LUC Regional Planning Commission • Maumee Valley Planning • Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission • Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission • Mid-Ohio Valley Regional Council • Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency • Northeast Ohio Four County Regional Planning and Development Organization • Ohio-Kentucky-Indiana Regional Council of Governments • Ohio Mid-Eastern Governments Association • Ohio Valley Regional Development Commission • Richland County Regional Planning Commission • Stark County Regional Planning Commission • Toledo Metropolitan Area Council of Governments



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Please do not hesitate to contact me, or our State Lobbyist Kevin Futryk (Government Advantage Group) with any questions. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Brian O. Martin, President

The Ohio Association of Regional Councils (OARC)

Executive Director of the Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission

Cc: Representative Steve Hambley Representative Rick Perales

Brian O. Martin