



WRITTEN TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE

HB 522

NOVEMBER 27, 2018

Chair Hackett, Vice Chair Hoagland, Ranking Member O'Brien and members of the Senate Agriculture Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify on HB 522.

HB 522 would allow one-day, not-for-profit F liquor permit holders to participate in a Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area (DORA). Currently, there is an oversight in the law which fails to allow temporary charitable festivals, who have obtained F permits, to apply for an outdoor refreshment area designation. HB 522 seeks to correct this oversight.

Many municipalities see temporary charitable festivals as an opportunity for an economic boost – drawing many from out-of-town to a city or village to enjoy local shops and booths. Furthermore, the bill is permissive, allowing local governments to approve the applications while their ordinances to establish safety provisions within the jurisdiction.

HB 522 grants municipalities the opportunity to allow temporary charitable festivals the same opportunity to participate in designated outdoor refreshment areas, which benefits local businesses, non-profits and the city or village hosting the event. We appreciate Rep. Lanese for recognizing the oversight in the law and working to correct it, and we urge your support of this bill.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Kent Scarrett
Executive Director
Ohio Municipal League