

SENATOR JOE SCHIAVONI
33rd District



SENATOR KENNY YUKO
Minority Leader
25th District

**Government Oversight and
Reform Committee
Senate Bill 156
December 5, 2018**

Good afternoon Chairman Coley, Vice Chair Uecker and members of the Senate Government Oversight and Reform Committee. Thank you for allowing us to give sponsor testimony on Senate Bill 156, which aims to protect Ohio call center workers. This bill would not only bar state aid from companies that have relocated customer service call center jobs to a foreign country, but it would ensure that these jobs stays in Ohio.

Senate Bill 156 would require companies that intend to relocate a call center from Ohio to a foreign country to notify the Director of Job and Family Services (JFS) at least 120 days prior to the relocation. If they fail to comply, the Director of JFS will notify the Attorney General who can bring a civil suit against the company in the county in which it is located. Every six months, the Director of JFS would compile a list of every company that has moved a call center overseas and submit it to the Director of Development. The list would then be distributed to every state agency and companies on the list would be ineligible to receive state aid for five years, with some exceptions. Companies that have offshored jobs and are receiving state aid would be required to give that aid amount back to the Department of Development. This bill would also guarantee all state call center contracts to be done in Ohio. Within two years of the bill's passage, every individual who does call center work for the state will be from Ohio.

As legislators, we have a responsibility to protect Ohio jobs and workers. Ohioans are rightfully concerned about call center jobs being sent overseas, and our workers deserve to know if they will lose their jobs. Taxpayers should know whether or not their tax dollars are going to companies that have moved their jobs overseas. Senate Bill 156 not only holds companies accountable for outsourcing and offshoring, it also provides a level of transparency to consumers and taxpayers about which companies are receiving state aid. Ultimately, companies should not be rewarded for eliminating job opportunities that are well within the capabilities of Ohio workers.

Chairman Coley and members of the Committee, we appreciate your attention and consideration of this legislation. We would be happy to answer any questions that you may have.