



**SENATOR STEVE WILSON**  
Ohio's 7th Senate District

**Senate Insurance and Financial Institutions Committee**  
**Senator Steve Wilson**  
**November 27, 2018**  
**Senate Bill 317**

Good morning Chairman Hottinger, Vice Chair Hackett, Ranking Member Brown and members of the Committee. Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to provide sponsor testimony on Substitute Senate Bill 317. This legislation aims to specify that a retired member of a state retirement system board is eligible to be elected and serve as chairperson of the board.

Of Ohio's five state retirement systems, only the Ohio Police and Fire Pension Fund Board of Trustees has adopted rules to prohibit a retired member from being elected and serving as chair. Having served on many boards of trustees myself, I understand and appreciate the importance of board governance. However, I am a firm believer that those policies should be equitable and fair.

Substitute Senate Bill 317 simply seeks to specify that retired members of the boards of trustees shall not be prohibited from being elected and serving as chair. It does not mandate that they *must* be elected, but rather affords them the same opportunity as their active member counterparts. This legislation has been vetted and met with no objection from the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS), Ohio Highway Patrol Retirement System (HPRS), School Employees Retirement System of Ohio (SERS) and the State Teacher Retirement System of Ohio (STRS).

Again, thank you for giving me the opportunity to provide testimony. I would be happy to answer any questions you may have at this time.