**Local Government, Public Safety and Veterans Affairs**

**House Bill 194 Sponsor Testimony**

**Representatives Hearcel F. Craig and Rep. Terry Johnson**

**Special license plates for military service and awards**

**Dec 5, 2017**

Chairman Uecker, Vice Chair Wilson and Ranking Member Thomas and members of the Local Government, Public Safety and Veterans Affairs, thank you for providing me with the opportunity to offer sponsor testimony on House Bill 194. I would also like to thank Rep. Terry Johnson for inviting me to joint sponsor this important piece of legislation with him.

There are currently twenty-two separate revised code sections related to military license plates. HB 194 seeks to streamline and improve the way Ohio creates new license plates to honor our military men and women.

House Bill 194 will require the Director of Veterans Services to work with the Registrar of Motor Vehicles to develop and maintain a program to establish and issue nonstandard license plates that recognize military service and military honors pertaining to valor and service.

Additionally, House Bill 194 will repeal Ohio’s current military nonstandard license plates code section after these new proposed rules are set forth and established. The current military license plates will be reestablished and continue to be issued under proposed Section 4503.29.

Thank you for allowing us to offer testimony on House Bill 194. I believe specialty license plates are one simple but meaningful way to recognize our veterans and their heroic service to our nation. I ask for your support of House Bill 194 and would be happy to address any of your questions.

**Hearcel F. Craig**

**House District 26**