

## 25 October 2019

The Honorable Stephanie Kunze, Chair
The Honorable Theresa Gavarone, Vice Chair
The Honorable Sandra R. Williams, Ranking Minority Member
Senate Higher Education Committee
Ohio Statehouse
1 Capitol Square
Columbus, OH 43215-4275

## Dear Committee Members:

On behalf of the Ohio Council of Chapters of the Military Officers Association of America, I appreciate the opportunity to testify in favor of House Bill 16, and solicit your support and vote in passing this legislation.

The Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) is a nonprofit veterans' association dedicated to maintaining a strong national defense and to preserving the earned entitlements of members of the uniformed services and their families and survivors. MOAA is the largest military officers association and the fourth largest veteran association in America. Membership in our chapters is open to those who hold or have ever held a warrant or commission in any component of the United States Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard, Public Health Service, or the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and their surviving spouses.

By granting in-state tuition at Ohio's institutions of higher learning to those families, HB 16 will encourage military families to come to and stay in Ohio in the long term. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, Ohio is already home to more than 864,000 veterans who contribute significantly to our state's economy. This legislation will help to create an optimal situation in which members of the Uniformed Services want to be assigned to posts in Ohio and will choose to stay in Ohio after they leave the military, growing Ohio's workforce. Additionally, this pro-military legislation will persuade the Federal Government to assign new missions to Ohio, thus adding even more jobs to Ohio's economy.

The members of the Ohio Chapters of the Military Officers Association of America are greatly supportive of House Bill 16 and encourage your committee to vote in favor of this proposed legislation which will not only benefit members of the Uniformed Services but also will contribute to the overall economy of Ohio by attracting Uniformed Services members and their families.

Most Respectfully,

Roderick A. Hosler

Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Army, Retired President, Ohio Council of Chapters Military Officers Association of America