



**OHIO SOYBEAN
ASSOCIATION**

918 Proprietors Road, Suite A, Worthington, OH 43085
614-476-3100 | 888-SOY-OHIO | www.soyohio.org

**Ohio House Agriculture & Conservation Committee
House Bill 239 – Written Only Testimony
Tuesday, May 4, 2021**

Chair Koehler and distinguished members of the Ohio House Agriculture & Conservation Committee;

I am submitting testimony today on behalf of the Ohio Soybean Association (OSA) and its members in support of House Bill 239. OSA is a member-driven, grassroots organization dedicated to improving the business climate for Ohio soybean farmers by providing leadership and advocating for sound policy at the state and national levels. As the sixth-largest soybean producing state, soybeans are an important part of Ohio's economy. Soybeans are Ohio's largest crop by acreage and largest export crop. The industry employs more than 30,000 people and generates more than \$5.3 billion in economic activity annually.

We support this bill because of the positive impact it will have on Ohio's soybean farmers. House Bill 239 would expand content and specifications for the Ohio State University's Farm Financial Management Institute (FMAPI) and also provides an appropriation. FMAPI will help the agricultural industry find solutions to the most critical issues facing producers, while further strengthening the collaborative efforts of groups across the industry. As producers, the tools of agriculture marketing, finance, production, risk management, and human resources can help us make current and future decisions that will strengthen our operations now and for years to come.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this bill. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can provide any more information or answer any questions.

Ryan Rhoades
President, Ohio Soybean Association
Soybean farmer in Marion County