



**Representative Jeff LaRe**  
**77<sup>th</sup> House District**

**Representative Gary Click**  
**88<sup>th</sup> House District**

**House Bill 35 Sponsor Testimony**

Chairman Hillyer, Vice-Chair Grendell, Ranking Member Galonski, and members of the House Civil Justice Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify today on House Bill 35. This piece of legislation seeks to amend the Ohio Revised Code to allow mayors in the state to solemnize marriages anywhere within the State of Ohio.

Current state statute permits mayors to solemnize marriages in the county in which their municipal corporation wholly or partly lies within. However, the public interest is not served by severely limiting mayors as to where they are permitted to solemnize a marriage. This common-sense legislation would simply amend the Ohio Revised Code to allow mayors to solemnize a marriage anywhere within the State of Ohio; thus allowing a mayor to officiate a wedding at a venue at the

choosing of the engaged couple without being hindered by the current law limitation.

Thank you again for the opportunity to provide testimony on House Bill 35.

We are happy to answer any questions you may have at this time.