February 15, 2022

The Honorable Jeffrey LaRe
Ohio House of Representatives
77 South High Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Chairman LaRe,

I contact you on behalf of the Ohio Trucking Association (OTA) regarding our support for the substitute version of HB 27 that is currently pending before the House Criminal Justice Committee. Collectively, the OTA represents over 1,000 trucking, moving, logistics and warehouse companies, and allied vendor members. Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to provide written testimony in support of the substitute version of HB 27 that is pending before the committee.

We would like to thank Rep. Patton for his willingness to work with OTA on the portion of the substitute bill (lines 61-63) exempting commercial motor vehicles operating under the jurisdiction of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA). The FMCSA already has cargo securement rules and penalties that cover all cargo-carrying commercial motor vehicles operating in interstate commerce. There are over a dozen pages of federal requirements regulating commercial motor vehicle cargo securement. These regulations can be found in 49 CFR 393.100 to 393.136[1]. 49 CFR Appendix B to Part 386 contains the penalties association with violations.[2]

Few organizations take roadway safety as seriously as the OTA. In fact, this very committee has heard us testify in support of HB 283, the distracted driving bill, which if passed would save the lives of countless Ohioans. The OTA appreciates this committee's work on legislation to improve the safety of our roadways and we stand as a resource for you moving forward.

Thank you for taking these comments into consideration.

Sincerely,

Thomas A. Balzer, CAE
President and CEO
Ohio Trucking Association

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[1] https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-49/subtitle-B/chapter-III/subchapter-B/part-393
[2] https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-49/subtitle-B/chapter-III/subchapter-B/part-386/appendix-Appendix%20B%20to%20Part%20386