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Chairman Edwards, Vice Chair Powell, Ranking Member Upchurch, and members of the House Economic and Workforce Development Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide sponsor testimony on Senate Bill 109.

These unprecedented times have seen significant challenges and hardships for our state, our citizens, our local government partners, our children, our businesses, their employees, and countless people in between. The state of Ohio, and specifically, the federal government has dedicated billions of dollars toward assistance during these trying times. This legislation is focused on a few very important pieces of the overall response. A number of other bills you will hear about today or have already heard about are focused on other aspects of our continuing response. Specifically, this legislation will provide an additional \$300 million of combined state and federal funding to businesses and other entities across Ohio for COVID-19 pandemic-related expenses.

During these challenging times, ensuring small businesses have the resources necessary for recovery is one of our priorities. It is imperative that we act swiftly to get these critical relief dollars into the hands of Ohioans who need it.

The \$300 million allocation will be directed as follows:

- \$20 million for indoor entertainment businesses who lost revenue due to canceled events and closures.
- \$10 million for new businesses that opened their doors after January 1, 2020.
- \$150 million for small businesses who have already been approved for aid but have yet to receive funding due to lack of program funding. If you recall last year we announced a small business assistance program which saw valid applications for assistance far outweigh available dollars at the time. We are making good on that program and allocating dollars to fund all of those eligible applications.
- \$4.7 million for Ohio's county and independent fairs.
- \$3 million for Ohio's two Veterans' homes.
- \$112.2 million to reimburse child care providers for pandemic-related expenses. This is a particularly crucial piece of this legislation as closures caused by the COVID-19 presented disproportionately unique challenges for daycares and other similar businesses.

To date, over \$2.5 billion in funding has been approved by the General Assembly to be

distributed to Ohio's communities as they continue to battle and recover from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Small businesses are the backbone of Ohio's economy, and this pandemic relief bill is vitally important to ensure that they receive relief as quickly as possible.

Chairman Edwards, Vice Chair Powell, Ranking Member Upchurch, and members of the House Economic and Workforce Development Committee, thank you again for allowing us to speak to this bill. We will be happy to answer questions at this time.