

March 22, 2021

Ohio House of Representatives 134th General Assembly Technology and Innovation Committee

Chairman Fraizer, Vice Chairman Hall, Ranking Member Lightbody, and members of the Ohio House Technology and Innovation Committee, thank you for allowing me the opportunity to testify in support of HB177 today. My name is Lisa Turner and I am a resident of Genoa Township, Chapter Lead for the Government Blockchain Association-Columbus, and a Emerging Technology Strategist.

I am passionate about the capabilities and opportunities that blockchain can bring to the State of Ohio. Blockchain offers transparency, collaboration, and efficiency. It aligns with State of InnovateOhio Platform vision. I have witnessed the benefits of the technology through my membership of the Government Blockchain Association (GBA)

GBA is an International Professional Association and US-based 501(c)(6) non-profit, trade league. GBA consists of public and private professionals and organizations that are interested in exploring and deploying blockchain-related solutions to meet needs for global governments. GBA creates relationships that would otherwise not come about between and among technologists, decision-makers, application specialists and those who simply need to understand the new and emerging distributed transaction-based technologies that will change the world. GBA is a collection of thought leaders that act as a catalyst in creating a public dialog, education and best practices around the creative, responsible, and positive leveraging of blockchain. GBA is a global organization with 90 plus chapters including Columbus and Cleveland. In addition, there are 60 working groups focused on common use cases that governments around the world encounter on a regular basis. In order to help those governments meet their missions to serve

blockchain technology recommendations, solutions and publications. Some of the working groups' areas of focus include Cannabis, Legislative & Policy, Land Titling, Identity Management, and Financial Regulatory.

Blockchain can be an invaluable tool for the private and public sectors in Ohio. According to Gartner, the business value add of blockchain will grow to slightly more than \$176B by 2025, the exceed to \$3.1T by 2030. It can create economic opportunities for our residents through jobs and fosters small business. In 2018, the number one skill recruiters searched for was Blockchain Developer with annual salaries between \$150k and \$200k. Most importantly blockchain can offer inclusion.

The concept of blockchain is that it is open and transparent in a collaborative environment. Everyone through a distributed network which parallels to providing easy access to learning the technology and gaining economic advancement for minorities and women. The success of Blockchain is built upon equal access and representation. Within Ohio, residents have created successful businesses based on those sustaining concepts. Our learning institutions recognize the potential and blockchain is taught in community college and university environments. Furthermore, there are several free or affordable providers that offer functional and technical training on the technology.

Once again, thank you for allowing me to testify and I do believe blockchain is beneficial to the residents of Ohio. I am happy to address any questions you may have.

Regards,
Lisa R. Turner