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Representative Mike Loychik The Ohio House of Representatives

HB 47 - Rep. Mike Loychik, Sponsor Testimony, Tuesday February 23rd, 2021

Chair Baldridge, Vice Chair McClaine, Ranking Member Sheehy, and Members of the House Transportation and Public Safety Committee thank you for allowing me the opportunity to provide sponsor testimony on House Bill 47, which is companion legislation to Senate Bill 32.

More people than ever are purchasing Electric Vehicles (EV), yet it is becoming a challenge for them to find charging stations. This presents a roadblock which will stunt Ohio's growth. As you know the Lordstown Motors recently began production of the Endurance Truck, which is completely electric. This plant is helping to bring jobs back to the area after GM left and is one of the new jewels of the Mahoning Valley. It is important to do what we can to ensure that Lordstown Motors and EVs have a place in Ohio. One of the best ways is to ensure that there are enough charging stations for them.

HB 47 would create a rebate grant program through the Department of Transportation to help incentivize the installation of new charging stations. The program will start once this legislation passes and will last until December 31st, 2030. The legislation also appropriates \$10 million for the purpose of this program. It is important to note that this program will never exceed its appropriation and therefore cannot cost more than we here in the General Assembly decide for it in the budgeting process. The rebate helps to cover certain expenses including the purchase of the EV charging station, associated charging ports, and not more than 50% of installation costs. The legislation also caps the number of charging ports so that the rebate is not misused.

This program will help incentivize new Level 2 and DCFC charging stations and help to bring Ohio forward. Espcially as the new administration in Washington looks towards EVs. It is legislation like this which will encourage the manufacturing at Lordstown and let people know that Ohio is business friendly, not to mention friendly to EVs owned both by the government and private citizens. This bill is needed to ensure Ohio is not left behind.

Thank you once gain for this opportunity to provide testimony on HB 47. I would also like to thank Senator Rulli and his office for their work and leadership on this issue. I am more than happy to answer any questions.