



June 15, 2021

Ohio House
House Transportation and Public Safety
Ohio Statehouse
Columbus, Ohio 43215

RE: Little Brown Jug Society-Proponent Testimony on Senate Bill 12

Dear Chair Baldrige, Vice Chair McClain, Ranking Member Sheehy and members of the Ohio House Transportation and Public Safety Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony in support of Senate Bill 12, legislation that would create the "Little Brown Jug" license plate.

The Little Brown Jug, one of the nation's premier harness racing events was first raced in 1946 on the grounds of the current Delaware County Fairgrounds. Two years prior, the Little Brown Jug Society was formed with the purpose to bring the Grand Circuit of Harness Racing to Delaware, Ohio. The Grand Circuit traditionally brings North America's best horses, drivers and trainers to Delaware each September.

Many will identify Delaware Ohio as the "Home of the Little Brown Jug." Our event brings together the entire county to put on a weeklong fair and harness meet showcasing agriculture on multiple fronts. Our spectators come from many states and countries. We traditionally expect crowds of 45,000 plus on the third Thursday after Labor Day each year. 2020 brought us new challenges but we maintained the tradition and had a week full of racing, which including six World Records and nearly \$2.7 million in purses. As well, last year was our 75th anniversary of the race and although we had a very limited set of spectators, we never entertained the thought of not racing.

Senator Andrew Brenner approached the Little Brown Jug Society and the Delaware County Fair about having the specialty license plate in honor of the race in the fall of 2020. What a great way to share our event with many in and out of the state, as residents travel about. We cannot thank Senator Brenner for his efforts to help make this happen.

The Little Brown Jug would ask for your support of SB 12 that would create the commemorative license plate. I can assure you the list of those that will order will be long and display them with pride.

Thank you,

Tom Wright
President
The Little Brown Jug Society