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**Ohio General Assembly
Ohio House of Representatives
Representative Jim Hoops**

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Chairman Baldrige, Vice Chair McClain, Ranking Member Sheehy and members of the Transportation and Public Safety Committee. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on HB 516, which would designate the eastbound and westbound lanes of US Route 224 as the Putnam County Veterans Memorial Highway.

It is an honor to represent Putnam County. It is home to thousands of veterans who have served our country here and overseas. Our veterans have earned our admiration and respect. It is my hope that this proposed memorial highway conveys in some small way that each veteran from our county is valued and honored.

It may be a small demonstration of the deep appreciation many feel, but my hope is that someone that drives along U.S. Route 224 in Putnam County would see the sign and think about our service men and women, especially those who gave their lives to protect our freedom and our country. I also hope it would remind others to thank those who continue to serve and to honor the countless lives lost.

Chairman Baldrige, Vice Chair McClain, Ranking Member Sheehy and members of the Transportation and Public Safety Committee, I thank you for your attention, and I ask for your favorable consideration of House Bill 516.