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Senate Bill 328
Senate Judiciary Committee
Chairman Manning
Sponsor Testimony – Senator Bob Hackett
May 24, 2022

Good morning Chairman Manning, Vice Chair McColley, Ranking Member Thomas and members of the Senate Judiciary Committee. Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to present sponsor testimony on SB 328 which would add one judge to the Fairborn Municipal Court.

Currently, the Fairborn Municipal Court has one full-time judge. This bill would add another full-time judge who will be elected in 2023.

The Fairborn Municipal Court has been serving a steadily increasing population since the 1990s. According to the 2020 census, the Fairborn Municipal Court serves a population of 95,390 persons, an increase of 4.2% since the 2010 census. This increase in population has led to an increase in the Court's caseload.

According to an analysis from the Supreme Court of Ohio, the average per-judge caseload in 2020 was 6,722 cases for all case types combined across all municipal courts in the state. The Fairborn Municipal Court saw a total of 18,058 filings in 2020, ranking it as having the highest caseload per judge in Ohio.

The data clearly shows that the Fairborn Municipal Court is overwhelmed with cases. The addition of a second judge will aid the Court's operations and increase the Court's effectiveness.

Mr. Chairman, thank you for bringing this important issue before the committee and I will now entertain any questions from the committee.