

Proponent Testimony: House Bill 209, Create Ohio Society Daughters of American Revolution Plate  
House Homeland Security Committee  
December 06, 2023

Chairman Ghanbari, Vice Chair Plummer, Ranking Member Thomas and the members of the House Homeland Security Committee, I am so happy to finally be here and I thank you for the opportunity to speak on HB 209.

To begin, I would like to read from the National DAR website because these are the standards that we follow. “The National Society Daughters of the American Revolution is a nonprofit, nonpolitical women’s service organization dedicated to preserving the memory and spirit of the men and women who achieved American independence.

As an organization committed to historic preservation, education and patriotism, we know that examining history helps us to better understand our nation’s long struggle to provide equality, justice and humanity for all Americans. We recognize that the United States of America was built on the promise of equality for all, and we share an obligation to help our nation fulfill that founding promise.

Our National Society encourages and celebrates a diverse membership, and we embrace the opportunity to support our members of color. DAR reaffirms to the membership and the public alike that our organization condemns racism. Bias, prejudice and intolerance have no place in the DAR or America.”

As one of the most inclusive genealogical societies in the country, NSDAR has 190,000 members in 3,000 chapters across the United States and internationally. Any woman 18 years or older-regardless of race, religion, or ethnic background-who can prove lineal descent from a patriot of the American Revolution, is eligible for membership. The Ohio Society has approximately 6300 members in 97 chapters. As a state society we have been promoting Historical Preservation, Education and Patriotism since 1891.

OSDAR would like to continue to this legacy and the funds from this license plate will help us do just that.

As we approach America’s 250<sup>th</sup> birthday, the Ohio Society is celebrating the occasion by researching, locating and marking underrepresented patriots. These patriots include women, African Americans, Native Americans, Jewish, French, French-Canadian, Spanish, and Dutch.

The members of the Ohio Society are proud of their lineage. We hope having a license plate with our logo on it will encourage others to look us up, see who we are, what we do and hopefully join us.

Mr Ghanbari and members of the House Homeland Security Committee, thank you again for allowing me to speak today and I am happy to answer any questions you may have.