



**Ohio Department of Administrative Services
House Technology and Innovation Committee
House Bill 17 – Proponent Testimony**

Good morning, Chairman Hall, Vice Chair Claggett, Ranking Member Abdullahi, and members of the House Technology and Innovation Committee. My name is Katrina Flory, and I am the State Chief Information Officer and Assistant Director of the Ohio Department of Administrative Services.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of House Bill 17.

The DAS Office of Information Technology delivers statewide information technology and telecommunication services to State agencies, boards, and commissions, as well as policy and standards development, lifecycle investment planning, and privacy and security management.

Information technology powers the business of government. IT systems support State agencies in delivering vital services to the people of Ohio and serve as critical links with Ohioans seeking assistance to start or grow businesses, obtain services, and thrive in our state. The use of State technology assets to increase the well-being of Ohioans and their health, property, security, livelihood, and prosperity is essential.

Governor DeWine and Lt. Governor Husted know that a safe technological environment is a secure technological environment, and maintaining the cybersecurity of Ohio state government and its employees is necessary to the safe and effective operation of the government.

In January, Governor DeWine signed Executive Order 2023-03D, prohibiting certain applications, platforms and websites on State-owned and State-leased devices. Governor DeWine and Lt. Governor Husted recognize the use of social media platforms such as TikTok raise both cyber and privacy concerns for the users. DAS immediately reissued Ohio Administrative Policy IT-04: Use of Internet, E-mail and Other IT Resources and Ohio Administrative Policy IT-08: Website Standardization to include the following updates:

- A list of State-approved social media channels. Agencies are required to only use these channels.

- A prohibition against downloading and/or using any social media application, channel, and platform that is owned by an entity located in China in accordance with Executive Order 2023-03D.
- Agencies must ensure prohibited social media applications are removed from state-owned or state-leased devices capable of accessing the internet.
- Agencies must monitor their use of social media to ensure compliance with the revised policy and remind social media content managers of the requirements outlined in Ohio Administrative Policy IT-04.
- Links to social media channels shall appear in the Social Media column of the State Directory, <https://ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/site/help-center/state-directory/>.

We continually work to improve security and privacy awareness across the enterprise by reminding our staff of their responsibility to keep the State's systems and data secure. That means enhancing their knowledge and driving behavior change through training and frequent communication.

Ohio is among at least 37 states that have taken some official action against TikTok and other Chinese-owned applications and platforms, and the federal government has banned employees from using TikTok on government-issued devices.

Thank you for the opportunity to address the Committee. We are committed to modernizing interactions between the State and the public through technology and appreciate your support.

I am happy to answer any questions you may have.