



Sponsor Testimony: House Bill 318

Representative DJ Swearingen

89th House District

House Transportation Committee

Chairman McClain, Vice-Chair Dobos, Ranking-Member Grim, and members of the House Transportation Committee, thank you for allowing me to provide sponsor testimony for House Bill 318 that would designate the portion of State Route 269 immediately north and south of Castalia as “Scott G. Gast Memorial Highway”.

This bill has the support of the Village of Castalia Council as it honors one of our community’s most vibrant who was sadly and suddenly taken from us. Scott was a pillar of the local community, known not just for his personal energy but also his many achievements.

Scott excelled in everything he did, he was a top student as an adolescent and continued his success into college – graduating BGSU with a business degree and immediately excelling in the banking world. He rose rapidly, often being rewarded, and became the Vice President of Charter One Bank in Cleveland. Scott also passed his brokerage test, receiving his license just one day before his sudden passing.

Outside of his academic accomplishments, he was also a lead singer and guitar player. He formed the band “The CocoBeanO’s”, playing across Ohio with a particular focus on District 89’s Put-In-Bay. Besides his Ohio activities, he traveled the world performing as the lead singer in a Rolling Stones Tribute band.

Scott G. Gast was one of our brightest, most optimistic, and hopeful, it is my belief he should be honored not just for his own sake but as a role model for kids and young adults that one can both energetically follow their passions while being professionally accomplished.

Thank you, Chairman McClain, Vice-Chair Dobos, Ranking-Member Grim, and members of the House Transportation Committee for an opportunity to speak today. I am happy to take any questions you may have.