

Tim Williams, Executive Director Ohio Manufactured Homes Association House Ways and Means Committee House Bill 274 proponent testimony December 5, 2023

Chairman Roemer, Vice Chair Lorenz, Ranking Member Troy, and members of the House Ways and Means Committee, I am Tim Williams, Executive Director of the Ohio Manufactured Homes Association. On behalf of the Ohio Manufactured Homes Association, I am providing a proponent statement on House Bill 274.

Since 1947 the Ohio Manufactured Homes Association (OMHA) has represented all segments of the manufactured housing industry providing affordable housing to over 900,000 Ohioans living in manufactured homes. Our mission is to help people experience the lifestyle associated with home ownership in the most economical way. Whether it's in a planned community or on the land of their choice, manufactured homes exist to provide comfort, safety and convenience, in the most economical and desirable way.

As the Committee is well aware, it is not uncommon for homeowners to face increased economic pressure due to rising property taxes, especially when on a fixed income. HB 274 would provide some relief from the financial burden imposed by property taxes by creating a new \$50,000 enhanced homestead exemption for homeowners who have owned their property for at least twenty consecutive years.

The proposal in HB 274 is in-line with our mission to promote economical home ownership. OMHA supports this effort to reduce the burden of property taxes and help homeowners stay in their homes.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee, for the opportunity to provide comments in support of House Bill 274.