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'Ohio Legislative Report'

Ohio Legislative Report

Is published electronically at the start of each month to report on the latest information about legislative issues taking place in Columbus that could affect the lives of Veterans, Military Personnel, and their families in Ohio.

It is emailed at no charge to all who would like to receive it.

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Editor: David K. Root

Statehouse Happenings

After their spring break, the members of the 135th General Assembly rolled up their sleeves and got back to work. There were plenty of committee meetings and many of our bills finally received hearings. There were more hearings during the three and half weeks of April than all three of the previous months combined. Here is the recap of April's hearings, week by week.

April 8 - 12 -

The House Transportation Committee started the month with a meeting on Tuesday the 9th and House Bills 317, 350, and 335 were on the agenda. Bill sponsor, **Reggie Stoltzfus** (District 50) offered testimony on HB 317. There was also testimony from four other proponents. The bill would designate a portion of State Route 172 in Stark County to be known as the "Sgt. Cory M. Endlich Corridor." U.S. Army Sgt. Endlich grew up in Massillon, Ohio. He died from enemy small-arms fire while on patrol in Taji, Iraq on June 9, 2007.

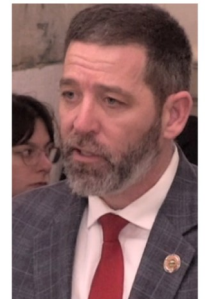


Rep Callender testifies on HB 350

Calendar gave sponsor testimony before the committee.

HB 335 did not have any witnesses. Both HB 317 and HB 350 were unanimously voted favorably out of committee.

Later in the afternoon, the House Ways and Means Committee heard sponsor testimony on House Bill 378. Introduced by Representatives **Brian Lorenz** (District 60) and **Nick Santucci** (District 64) in January it would authorize a full homestead exemption for believe military personnel and veterans who had separation or discharge from military service related to mental health issues should have consideration to correct records to a more honorable discharge and that post-military service civilian income should not have any bearing on eligibility for



Rep Stoltzfus testifies on HB 317

Following HB 317 was testimony for HB 350. This bill would name a portion of State Route 44 in Lake County the "Lance Corporal Austin B. Schwenk Memorial Highway". LCpl Schwenk died on October 18, 2023, at the Marine Corps Camp Lejeune Military Base in North Carolina after being shot in an on-base barracks room. Another Marine was apprehended, and the Naval Criminal Investigative Service is investigating the incident. He was a graduate of Riverside High School in Painesville, Ohio. The bill is sponsored by Representatives **Jamie Callender** (District 57 and Daniel P. Troy (District 23).



Rep Santucci (l.) and Rep Lorenz (r.) give sponsor testimony for HB 378

See Happenings on Page Eight...

BILLS & RESOLUTIONS INTRODUCED IN MARCH

HB 483:

Introduced by Representative **Kevin D. Miller** (District 69) on April 8th.

It was referred to the House Homeland Security Committee.

The bill would amend section 4501.21 and enact section 4503.536 of the Revised Code to create the "Save a Warrior" license plate.

HB 487:

Introduced by Representative **Justin Pizzulli** (District 90) on April 10th.

It was referred to the House Transportation Committee.

The bill would enact section 5534.835 of the Revised Code to designate a portion of State Route 41 in Adams County as the "TSgt. Grover Lee Swearingen Memorial Highway."

HB 493:

Introduced by Representative **Angela N. King** (District 84) on April 16th.

It was referred to the House Transportation Committee.

This bill would enact section 5534.813 of the Revised Code to designate a portion of State Route 185 in Darke County the "Lance Corporal Gerald Subler Memorial Highway."

HB 494:

Introduced by Representative **Angela N. King** (District 84) on April 16th.

It was referred to the House Transportation Committee.

This Bill would enact section 5534.616 of the Revised Code to designate a bridge spanning Indian Creek in Darke County as the "SSgt Gene F. Morrison Memorial Bridge."

HR 431:

Introduced by Representatives **C. Allison Russo** (District 7), **Tracy M. Richardson** (District 86), and **Brian E. Lampton** (District 70) on April 16th.

It was adopted by the House the same day.

This resolution resolved that the members of the House of Representatives of the 135th General Assembly, acknowledge the Month of the Military Child in Ohio, April 2024, and urged all citizens to participate in appropriate programs and activities associated with it.

HR 434:

Introduced by Representatives **Haraz N. Ghanbari** (District 75), and **Elgin Rogers, Jr.** (District 44) on April 23rd.

It was adopted by the House the same day.

This resolution resolved that the members of the House of Representatives of the 135th General Assembly, congratulate American Legion Toledo Post 335 on its Centennial and salute its members as outstanding citizens.

HB 510:

Introduced by Representative **Al Cutrona** (District 58) on April 30th.

The bill has not been referred to a committee yet.

The bill would enact section 5534.648 of the Revised Code to designate a portion of State Route 11 in Mahoning County as the "Army Lt. Col. Robert R. Melnick Memorial Highway."

You can watch live every session of both chambers, all the committee hearings, Governor DeWine's press conferences, and much more on the Ohio Channel.

They are also archived for viewing at a later date.

www.ohiochannel.org

OUT IN THE DISTRICTS

TOWN HALL

Thursday, May 9th @ 6:30pm

North Randall Village Hall
4610 Northfield Road, North Randall, OH



STATE REPRESENTATIVE
JUANITA O. BRENT

REP22@OHIOHOUSE.GOV 614.466.1408 @JUANITA_BRENT

A legislative update from
STATE REP. ANITA SOMANI
HOUSE DISTRICT 11

@AnitaSomaniMD (614) 466-5358
@RepAnitaSomaniMD rep11@ohiohouse.gov
@OHHouseDems



I will be hosting Office Hours in Dublin at the Dublin Library in Meeting Room 1 on Tuesday, May 7th from 5:00-6:00 p.m.

This is an opportunity to ask questions or share legislative concerns. Please reach out to my office with any questions!

COFFEE
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10AM-12PM
CARROLL COUNTY COFFEE COMPANY
704 CANTON ROAD NW
CARROLLTON, OHIO



STATE REP. MONICA
ROBB
BLASDEL

A legislative update from
STATE REP. ELGIN ROGERS, JR.
HOUSE DISTRICT 44

(614) 466-1401 | rep44@ohiohouse.gov

Community Meeting: Saturday, May 11th at 1pm at the Oregon Branch Library (3340 Dustin Road, Oregon, OH 43616)

Keep an eye out for additional Community Meetings with Rep. Rogers that are in the works for Toledo Lucas County Library Branches: Point Place, Mott, Kent, and Reynolds Comer

ELECTION DAY Tuesday, November 5th

Oct. 07: Deadline for voter registration for Nov. 5 general election (30 days before general election)

Oct. 08: Early in-person absentee voting begins (first day after close of voter registration)

Oct. 29: Applications for absentee ballots to be mailed for Nov. 5 general election must be received by boards of elections by the close of business (7 days before general election)

Nov. 05: General Election Day. -Polls open from 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Absentee ballots, returned in person or via a method other than U.S. Mail, must be received by the boards of elections by close of polls

SEND US YOUR PHOTOS

If you have news or photos of a state representative or senator doing veteran/military stuff in their district, send it to us.

Email photos and all info to:
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OPINION PAGE

READERS LETTERS

Vets Org Seeks Bill Support From Other Vet Orgs

Dear fellow veterans, military families, and patriotic supporters:

I am writing to grow public support for Senate Bill 225, the designation of “Veterans Suicide Awareness and Prevention Day” in Ohio. On behalf of the thousands of Concerned Veterans for America activists across our state, we believe this bill is crucial for raising awareness about the challenges our veterans face, including mental health struggles and the tragically high rate of suicide among veterans.

We, at Concerned Veterans for America, are veterans from every branch of uniformed services and every conflict from World War II to the Global War on Terror. We are the family members of those who have proudly worn the uniform. We are freedom-loving citizens who value America’s heroes and are concerned about the fate of our country. We come from all walks of life and live in every community across America (www.cv4a.org).

At Concerned Veterans for America, we are working tirelessly to ensure our veterans have access to timely and quality care to address the silent struggles of mental health issues. Too often, our heroes are left navigating a broken and bureaucratic VA system of red tape and barriers to treatment. Senate Bill 225 aligns with our mission to advocate for policies like those within the VA Mission Act (www.VAMissionAct.com), which expands veterans’ health care options, especially mental health services.

We believe that “full choice” legislation can

See Letters on Page Five...

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Ohio Legislative Report welcomes letters to the editor.

- Letters are limited to 200 words.
- Letters with over 200 words may be edited.
- Letters will be subject to editing for accuracy, clarity, length, and taste.
- Letters must include writer’s name, address, and phone number for the purpose of verification.

EMAIL LETTERS TO: oh.leg.report@gmail.com

OUR OPINION

Special Interest License Plates Draw Attention and Raise Funds

You have been seeing them for years. They are on the vehicles cruising the city streets and highways of the US. Ohio is no stranger to them. They are ‘special interest’ license plates and you see them on cars, trucks, RVs, motorcycles, and trailers.

The Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles has hundreds on their menu. They fall into many categories. There are professional sports teams plates, collegiate plates, corporate plates, and organizational plates. They represent everything from amateur radios and the monarch butterfly to Superman and the Zeta Phi Beta Sorority.

There are also military plates of course. This category has more than 100 different plates available. There are plates for different wars and for medals earned –all the way up to the Medal of Honor. There are plates for active duty, retired, veteran, and even the Guard.

There is even a plate for World War I veterans. I know, but it is still on the menu. There is no additional fee for any of the military Plates, but you do need to prove you are eligible to get them.

Where does the BMV get the ideas for these special interest license plates? The plates require a bill to be written, passed, and signed into law. The bill will state what will be displayed on the plate, who is

eligible to purchase the plates, list any additional BMV fees or contributions and use of the contributions, and any requirement needed for issuance of the plates.

What special interest bills are currently in the General Assembly? There are quite a few, but of interest to our readers are four bills and they are all house bills. These four bills all pertain to our veterans or the families



See Opinion on Page Five...

Letters, from Page Five

empower veterans to reclaim control over their well-being. Veterans should have the freedom to seek the care that resonates with them, enabling them to embark on a journey towards restoration and renewal.

By officially recognizing Veterans Suicide Awareness and Prevention Day, Ohio can send a powerful message of support to our veteran community and emphasize the importance of mental health resources and suicide prevention efforts. Ultimately, Concerned Veterans for America will continue to advocate for ideas that promote veteran empowerment relative to control over their health care.

We urge fellow Ohioans to stand with us in honoring our veterans and taking proactive steps to address the mental health crisis they often confront. Please call and email your elected officials in the Ohio Legislature and tell them to support Senate Bill 225. This small action will make a meaningful difference in the lives of our veterans and their families throughout the Buckeye State.

Adam Miller

Adam Miller is Grassroots Engagement Director at Concerned Veterans for America – Ohio.

Opinion, from Page Five

of our military either directly or indirectly. They were referred to the House Homeland Security Committee and none have moved past a 2nd hearing. Let's look at each one and what they would do if passed into law.

First is House Bill 209. It was introduced by Representative **Rodney Creech** (District 40) in June of last year. The bill would create the "Ohio Society Daughters of American Revolution" license plate. It would be available to all applicants but there would be an additional \$10 administrative fee for the BMV and a \$10 contribution that would go to the Ohio Society Daughters of the American Revolution to be used for continuing the organization's endeavors in service, historic preservation, education, and patriotism.

The next bill (House Bill 248) was introduced by Representatives **Steve Demetriou** (District 35) and **Susan Manchester** (District 78) last year on the first of August. This bill would create the "Suicide Prevention" license plate, which would be available to all. There would be a \$10 administrative fee for the BMV and a contribution of \$25 that would be paid to Ohio Suicide Prevention Foundation, which must use the contributions for suicide prevention programs, education, and advocacy.

On February 21st of this year, Representative

Joseph A. Miller, III (District 53) introduced HB 423. This would create the "Blue Star Banner" license plate. The special plate would only be available to a "member of the immediate family" of a person who is a member of any branch of the armed forces of the United States who is serving on active duty, including those on active duty in the reserves or National Guard. A member of the immediate family is defined in the bill. There is no addition fee or contribution for the plates.

The most recent bill, introduced by Representative **Kevin D. Miller** (District 69) the second week of April is House Bill 483. This bill would create a "Save a Warrior" license plate. The plate would be inscribed with the words "We Came Back For You" and display an appropriate design, logo, or marking selected by the representatives of Save a Warrior, Inc. and would be available to all applicants. The plate would have a \$10 BMV administrative fee and a \$10 contribution that would be paid to Save a Warrior, Inc. and used to prevent suicide by active members and veterans of the U.S. armed forces and first responders.

These four special interest license plates draw attention to a cause, a person or an organization. That creates new or renewed awareness or interest of things that may be unfamiliar to many citizens. Three of the plates will also raise funds for worthwhile organizations that do many wonderful things for Ohio veterans, our military, and their family members.

Ohio Legislative Report supports all four of these "Special Interest License Plate" bills.

Reflections

"Individual rights are not subject to a public vote; a majority has no right to vote away the rights of a minority; the political function of rights is precisely to protect minorities from oppression by majorities (and the smallest minority on earth is the individual)."

-Ayn Rand

Legislation In The 135th Ohio General Assembly

Pertaining to Ohio Veterans, Active Duty, Reserve & National Guard, and Their Families

- HB 18 Allow military license plate applicant present county veterans ID
- HB 33 Establishes operating appropriations for fiscal years 2024-2025
- HB 53 Authorize refundable tax credits for hiring certain veterans
- HB 57 Index the homestead exemption to inflation
- HB 60 Increase amount of and expand the homestead exemption
- HB 69 Revise membership of county veterans service commissions
- HB 90 Authorize property tax exemption for disabled veterans, spouses
- HB 123 Designate Honor and Remember flag to honor fallen service members
- HB 126 Expand municipal income tax exemption for military pay
- HB 131 Designate Army SSgt. Charles V. Kettler Memorial Highway
- HB 132 Designate Army Sgt. Herbert C. Linville Memorial Highway
- HB 133 Designate Army Sgt. Ronnie Blair Memorial Highway
- HB 150 Prohibit rental discrimination based on lawful source of income
- HB 202 Designate Specialist Dennis Alan Combs Memorial Highway
- HB 212 Enact the Ohio Property Protection Act
- HB 231 Establish 9-8-8 suicide prevention, mental health telephone line
- HB 242 Establish the Armed Forces Reserve Component Scholarship Program and related funds
- HB 250 Revise the Military Enlistment diploma seal
- HB 252 Designate SM1 Cornelius Anthony McCafferty, Jr. Memorial Highway
- HB 253 Designate Brigadier General Charles Young Memorial Historical Corridor
- HB 254 Expand and enhance the homestead property tax exemption for disabled veterans
- HB 269 Designate Sgt Bradley J. Harper USMC Memorial Highway
- HB 286 Designate Vienna Township Veterans Bridge
- HB 294 Designate Delaware County Veteran's Memorial Highway
- HB 299 Designate Specialist Five Frederick Wayne Taylor Memorial Highway
- HB 310 Regards STRS member purchase of military service credit
- HB 317 Designate Sgt. Cory M. Endlich Corridor
- HB 335 Designate Ottawa County Veterans Memorial Highway
- HB 350 Designate Lance Corporal Austin B. Schwenk Memorial Highway
- HB 355 Designate Licking County Veterans Memorial Highway
- HB 365 Designate multiple memorial highways
- HB 378 Permit homestead exemption-surviving spouses of service members
- HB 409 Create the Ohio Cold War Victory Medal
- HB 423 Create "Blue Star Banner" license plate
- HB 431 Designate Staff Sgt. Zachary Wobler Memorial Highway
- HB 447 Regards property tax exemptions, restrictions and land value
- HB 453 Designate Staff Sergeant George P. Mizik (USMC) Memorial Highway
- HB 458 To designate "Gold and Blue Star Family Memorial Bridge" and "POW/MIA Memorial Viaduct."
- HB 483 Create "Save a Warrior" license plate
- HB 487 Designate TSgt. Grover Lee Swearingen Memorial Highway
- HB 493 Designate Lance Corporal Gerald Subler Memorial Highway
- HB 494 Designate SSgt Gene F. Morrison Memorial Bridge
- HB 510 Designate Army Lt. Col. Robert R. Melnick Memorial Highway

- HR 95 Urge Congress to extend GI Bill benefits

More Legislation on the NEXT PAGE...

Legislation, from Page Five

- HR 189 Honoring Thomas Mihalis Memorial Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1079 on its Centennial
HR 221 Honoring Dan Shroyer as a 2023 National Veterans Golden Age Games Champion
HR 222 Honoring Dr. John Eichelberger as a 2023 National Veterans Golden Age Games Champion
HR 258 Honoring American Legion DeWitt McConnell Post 235 on its Centennial
HR 302 Honoring Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1090 on its Centennial
HR 316 Honoring Jay Wilson American Legion Post 112 on its Centennial
HR 431 Observing April 2024 as the Month of the Military Child in Ohio
HR 434 Honoring American Legion Toledo Post 335 on its Centennial
- HCR 8 To urge the federal government to select Ohio for the permanent headquarters of the U.S. Space Command
HCR 9 Adopt Restoration of America's Readiness (ROAR) Resolution
- SB 12 Regards veteran-owned business enterprise certification program
SB 14 Expand veteran eligibility to teach without license
SB 15 Authorize Military License Plate Program permanent registration
SB 43 Modify homestead exemption-surviving spouse of a disabled veteran
SB 45 Designate Veterans Memorial Bridge in Trumbull County
SB 63 Require plaintiff in asbestos claim to file specified disclosures
SB 64 Expand Ohio National Guard Scholarship Program
SB 110 Designate Sgt. Anthony Kress Vinnedge Memorial Highway
SB 113 Regards failure to comply with Military Selective Service System
SB 114 Designate Lance Corporal James F. Kimple Memorial Highway
SB 134 Modifies homestead property tax exemption for disabled veterans
SB 140 Designate Sgt. Todd M. Bates Memorial Highway
SB 141 Designate American Gold Star Mothers, Inc. Memorial Highway
SB 145 Designate Cpl. David A. Johnston Memorial Highway
SB 152 Designate Cpl. Jack O. McClure Memorial Highway
SB 154 Include Space Force in armed forces, armed and uniformed service
SB 167 Designate Marine Corporal Tim W. Russell Highway
SB 169 Designate Cortland Veterans Memorial Bridge
SB 183 Designate Lance Corporal James Patrick Rizzo Memorial Highway
SB 191 Designate PFC Richard 'Rick' Wesley McFarland Memorial Highway
SB 208 To require a military exception in an open enrollment policy
SB 225 To designate September 22 as Veterans Suicide Awareness and Prevention Day
SB 226 Enact the Ohio Property Protection Act
- SR 171 Honoring Thomas Mihalis Memorial VFW Post 1079 as it commemorates its One Hundredth Anniversary
SR 262 In memory of Senior Airman Brian "Kody" Johnson
SR 315 Recognizing the Month of the Military Child in Ohio, April 2024
- SCR 8 Urge federal govt reduce processing time- veteran disability claim
SCR 9 Urge Congress support military, veteran mental health treatment

A bill is a document by which a member of the General Assembly proposes to enact a new law or amend or repeal an existing law. The term "bill" is used to refer to the document from the time it is drafted and delivered to the member until it is considered and approved by both the House and the Senate. After passing both houses, a bill becomes an "act" and must be presented to the Governor for acceptance or rejection. If accepted, or if the Governor does not take any action for ten days, it becomes a "law."

Happenings, from Page One

healthcare-related benefits or treatment.

Following SCR 8 and 9, testimony was heard from Senator **Kristina D. Roegner** (District 27), sponsor of Senate Bill 225. Her bill would amend section the Revised Code to designate September 22 as "Veterans Suicide Awareness and Prevention Day." Currently the first Saturday in May is designated as "Veterans Suicide Awareness Day" in Ohio.

In the Senate Education Committee, Senate Bill 208 had its second hearing and Amended House Bill 250 its third. Neither had any witnesses, although SB 208 did have two written only testimonies. Two amendments were agreed to for AmHB 250. They were to make corrections to the language of the bill.

April 15 - 19 -

The next week, there were no hearings for our bills on the house side, but the senate side had plenty to keep them busy. The Senate Transportation Committee had five bills on the agenda and the Senate Education Committee had two. Both committees met on Wednesday the 17th.

Four of the bills in the Transportation Committee would create memorial highways and one would create a memorial bridge.

Senate Bill 191 was introduced in November by Senator **Mark Romanchuk** (District 22) and would create a portion of State Route 39, the "PFC Richard 'Rick' Wesley McFarland Memorial Highway" in Richland County. PFC McFarland was killed in action on August 10, 1970, when he tripped an explosive device during a reconnaissance mission in the Quang Ngai Province in South Vietnam. He was serving with Company E, 1st Battalion 52nd Infantry American Division.

Senate Bill 183 was also introduced in November by Senator **Nickie J. Antonio** (District 23). Her bill would create the "Lance Corporal James Patrick Rizzo Memorial Highway" on a portion of Interstate 90 on the



Senator Roegner testifies on SB 225



Senator Romanchuk testifying on SB 191



Senator Antonio testifies on SB 183

east side of Cleveland. It would be in honor of LCpl Rizzo who while serving in Vietnam, was killed in action on February 8, 1968, after attempting to gain support for his platoon during a ground assault. While serving with 3rd Marine Division where he earned 20 Service Ribbons, including the Bronze Star with Valor, the Purple Heart, the Combat Action Ribbon, and the Republic of Vietnam Service Medal.

Senate Bill 169 would designate a bridge spanning Walnut Creek in Trumbull County as the "Cortland Veterans Memorial Bridge." The bill was introduced by Senator **Sandra O'Brien** (District 32) last October. The bill was the idea of the members of the Cortland American Legion Post 540 as a way to recognize and honor the Veterans of the City of Cortland for their service and sacrifice to the country and their community.

Senate Bill 141 would designate a portion of Interstate 77 in Akron as the "American Gold Star Mothers, Inc. Memorial Highway." Vernon Sykes (District 28) introduced the bill in July last summer.

Senate Bill 145 was introduced last August by Senator **Tim Schaffer** (District 20) to designate a portion of Refugee Road in Fairfield County as the "Cpl. David A. Johnston Memorial Highway." Corporal Johnston was killed in action while supporting Operation Taylor Common in the Quang Nam Province of South Vietnam on March 3, 1969. He was awarded the Bronze Star posthumously for his actions during the combat operation.

The same day the Senate Education Committee held hearings once again for Amended House Bill 250 and Senate Bill 208. Again, the committee approved two amendments, neither of which pertained to the military enlistment seals. There were no witnesses offering testimony for either bill.

April 22 - 26

In the next week on Tuesday the 23rd, the House Transportation Committee heard testimony on two more bills that would designate memorial highways. HB 335, introduced by Representatives **D. J. Swearingen** (District 89) and **Elgin Rogers, Jr.** (District 44) in November would designate a portion of State Route 163 in Ottawa County as "Ottawa County Memorial Highway." There was no testimony but with a vote of 10-0 it was favorably passed out of committee. HB 431 would designate a portion of U.S. Route 127 in Paulding County as "Staff Sgt. Zachary Wobler Memorial Highway." SSgt. Wobler was killed on February 6, 2005, by insurgent fire in Iraq while serving

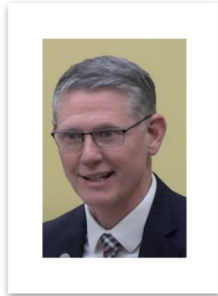


Senator O'Brien testifies on SB 169

with the Army's 2nd Battalion, 325th Airborne Infantry Regiment, 82nd Airborne Division.

The House Ways and Means Committee met on Tuesday and a second hearing was held for HB 378. Proponent testimony was heard from Tiffany Eckert, a Gold Star Spouse and written testimony was received from three other proponents of the bill. Secretary of State, Frank LaRose, Jane Horton, a Gold Star spouse, and Jon Bennehoof, Fund Raising Chairman for The Ohio Gold Star Families Memorial Monument Committee of Columbus.

In the House State and Local Government Committee House Bill 123 finally was given its first hearing. Introduced by Representatives **Joseph A. Miller, III** (District 53) and **Adam C. Miller** (District 6) over a year ago, the bill would designate the Honor and Remember flag as the symbol of Ohio's concern and commitment to honoring and remembering the lives of all fallen service members and their families. Testimony was given by Rep Joseph Miller.



Rep J. Miller testifying on HB 123

Amended House Bill 250 was once again before the Senate Education Committee who approved two more amendments to the bill. Neither amendment affected military enlistment seals portion. The committee favorably reported it out of committee (now classified as Substitute House Bill 250). The next day the full senate made further amendments before it unanimously passed the bill (now it is Amended Substitute House Bill 250). SubAmHB 250 now goes back to the house.

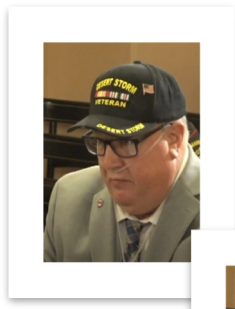
The Senate Veterans and Public Safety Committee had the second hearing for SB 225 and there was testimony, written and in person, from six

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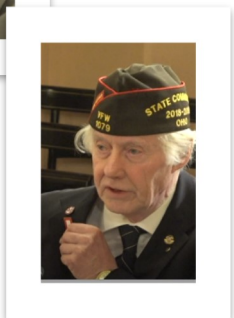
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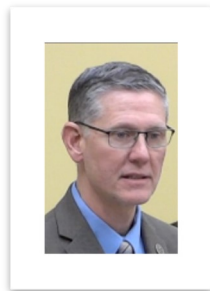
proponents. Tim Hauser of Veterans Assurance Network, David K. Root of Department of Ohio Veterans of Foreign Wars, and Patricia Krummrich, and Michelle Lee Heym (speaking for themselves) testified in support of the bill. Written proponent testimony was received from Adam Miller



Hauser (Top) and Root testifying on SB 225



of Concerned Veterans for America and Ashley Wilson of American Foundation for Suicide Prevention - Ohio Chapter.



Rep J. Miller testifies on HB 423

On Wednesday, the House Homeland Security Committee heard sponsor testimony for House Bill 423. This bill would create a special interest license plate that would be available to a "member of the immediate family" of a person who is a member of any branch of the armed forces of the United States who is serving on active duty, including those on active duty in the reserves or National Guard. It was introduced in February by **Joseph A. Miller, III** (District 53).

April 29 – 30 -

The House Ways and Means Committee wrapped up the month on Wednesday with the third hearing for HB 378. There was no opponent testimony.

Remember all committee meetings are filmed and archived. You can watch them at ohiochannel.org or you can read the testimony by going to legislature.ohio.gov and search by bill number or legislator.

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