



Amendment No. AM_133_3691
Proponent Testimony
Senate General Government & Agency Review Committee
December 7, 2020
Stephanie Keinath, Vice President
Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce

Chairman Schuring, Vice Chairman Rulli, Ranking Member O'Brien, members of the Senate General Government and Agency Review Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony in support of Amendment 133_3691 to Sub. Senate Bill 246.

As the largest regional business advocate in the greater Dayton region, the Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce represents nearly 2,200 businesses and organizations in southwestern Ohio in a nine county region. Additionally, we provide direct advocacy and support for our service men and women in our region, specifically at Wright Patterson Air Force Base. Wright-Patterson Air Force Base remains the #1 single site employer in the State of Ohio, with over 28,000 direct employees on base.

We have worked tirelessly to ensure that the Dayton region and Wright Patterson Air Force Base are well positioned to attract new missions and investment opportunities. We have also worked to ensure that service men and women stay in Ohio after finishing their military careers, keeping that top talent in Dayton who can easily transition to another career in civilian life. It is with this in mind that I'd like to share our support of the amendment to Sub. Senate Bill 246, providing reciprocity in Ohio for military occupational licenses & certifications. This is an important step in ensuring that Ohio specifically, and the Dayton region in particular, remain attractive to top workforce talent.

The amendment to Sub. Senate Bill 246 will ensure that our service members can more easily transition to careers following the end of their military service, and will also position our state to recruit and retain critical workforce in those occupations that need it the most, including healthcare and logistics. Streamlining the licensing process for our military workforce by providing reciprocity in Ohio will make our whole economy more competitive. I appreciate the opportunity to share our support for this amendment with you today.