

Senate Government & Oversight Reform Committee

Dave Greenspan, Cuyahoga County Councilman

House Bill 5

September 30th, 2015

Good Morning Chair Coley, Vice Chair Seitz Ranking Member Yuko, and members of the committee. Thank you for the opportunity to testify today in support of House Bill 5.

As member of Cuyahoga County Council District 1 I represent the communities Fairview Park, North Olmstead, Rocky River, Westlake and Bay Village who are constantly seeking opportunity to collaborate and work together. In fact within my district, those very members are part of the Westshore Council of Governments, one of the longest standing and best recognized examples of true local government collaboration.

It is to help facilitate and further that sense of collaboration that I am here today.

A few months back we had the Auditor of States office visit to present ShareOhio to various representatives from the County Executive's office. We were excited to learn about the program and have identified opportunities for potential use within the county.

ShareOhio is not only a means to increase collaboration within District 1, but is an opportunity to expand collaboration beyond governmental borders. Further this collaboration can yield opportunities greater than mowers and street sweepers, into aiding and assisting with identifying key resources needed in times of emergency.

The biggest hindrance to achieving this goal is solved with HB 5. One of the biggest challenges to collaboration that I see in my district and around Cuyahoga County is concerns with liability. HB 5

directly addresses that concern by enabling local governments to pass the risk of loss from the lending public entity to the borrowing public entity. While individual entities with long standing relationships look the other way in the face of potential risks, those without years of history are less inclined to build new partnerships.

Chair Coley, Members of the Senate Oversight and Government reform committee, it is with the explicit goal to instill a sense of confidence and trust that our government is working for all of our residents that I am encouraging your support for House Bill 5. I am happy to address any questions you have at this time.