



December 2, 2014

**MEMO**

**TO: MEMBERS OF SENATE WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE**

**FROM: BRAD COLE, MANAGING DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH**

**SUBJECT: PROPONENT TESTIMONY ON HB 494**

---

Chairman Peterson, Vice Chair Schaffer, and Ranking Minority Member Tavares, my name is Brad Cole, and I am here representing the County Commissioners Association of Ohio (CCAO). CCAO supports HB 494.

The bill would permit two or more boards of commissioners and the county engineers of those counties to form the governing board of a regional transportation improvement project composed of one commissioner and a county engineer from each participating county. The counties participating in a regional transportation improvement project would be required to enter into a cooperative agreement that would spell out:

- A description of the existing transportation system including deficiencies in that system
- A list of transportation projects to be completed including a general description of each improvement, schedules for completion of each improvement, and the cost of each improvement
- Policies regarding the operations and reporting requirements of the governing board
- The number of years that the agreement is to be in effect
- Any other terms that the board of commissioners considers necessary to communicate the intentions of the cooperative agreement

Each board of commissioners proposing to undertake a regional transportation improvement project would be required to hold a public hearing and publish notice of the hearing before adopting a resolution approving the agreement.

HB 494 provides various funding sources for the financing of transportation projects including an additional motor vehicle license tax which the commissioners could adopt subject to approval by voters in all or part of each county entering into the cooperative agreement.

CCAO supports providing county commissioners with authority and funding options to proceed with transportation projects that have a regional impact.

Mr. Chairman, thank you for allowing me to testify in support of HB 494. I would be happy to try to answer any questions from members of the committee at this time.



County Risk  
Sharing Authority

Fax: 614-220-0209  
www.corsa.org



Fax: 614-229-4588  
www.cebco.org



Fax: 614-221-6986  
www.ccao.org