



**STRONGER COUNTIES. STRONGER OHIO.**

209 East State Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215-4309

Phone: 614-221-5627 • Fax: 614-221-6986

Toll Free: 888-757-1904 • [www.ccao.org](http://www.ccao.org)

Cheryl Subler, Executive Director

**Ohio House of Representatives State and Local Government Committee  
Proponent Testimony – House Concurrent Resolution 5  
Glenn Miller, Henry County Commissioner**

Chairwoman John, Vice Chair Dean, Ranking Member Brennan, and members of the House State and Local Government Committee, my name is Glenn Miller; I serve as a Henry County Commissioner, President of the County Commissioners Association of Ohio, and am a member of America 250-Ohio. Thank you for the opportunity to speak with you about HCR 5.

The American 250-Ohio Commission is leading Ohio's preparation to participate in the nation's 250th anniversary, which will be marked on July 4, 2026. The commission's mission is spelled out in ORC Section 149.309 to "... plan, encourage, develop, and coordinate the commemoration of the two hundred fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the United States and the impact of Ohioans on the nation's past, present, and future."

I wanted to take my time today to highlight a few aspects of American history through the lens of Ohio's 88 counties. One of the earliest episodes of American history in Ohio took place in Tuscarawas County, where Fort Laurens stood, the site of the only Revolutionary War fortification in modern-day Ohio. Virtually every American-made aircraft flown during World War II was equipped with navigation lights developed and manufactured by Grimes Manufacturing, based out of Champaign County. The first professional baseball team was born in Hamilton County and the National Football League ~~was born~~ in Stark County.

America 250-Ohio, among its many other objectives, will help Ohioans engage with the county they call home and help foster stronger community bonds by emphasizing our shared history while learning from our differences.

From artifacts of human settlement dating back 15,000 years ago in Medina County to Ohioans from Hancock, Hardin, Jefferson, Scioto, and Wood counties receiving the first Medals of Honor in 1863, and through today, Ohio's counties have been the site of, and have shaped the makers, of American history since humans first set foot in what is now the great Buckeye State.

The County Commissioners Association in partnership with the America 250-Ohio Commission have created a traveling sign with the '250' logo. This sign will travel to all 88 Counties over the next 2 years for people to view and be able to take pictures with it. This beautiful sign, when on display, will have a banner attached which will have the name of the



County where the sign is being viewed. This sign has made numerous trips to the Statehouse for many events.

Chairwoman John, Vice Chair Dean, Ranking Member Brennan, and members of the committee, thank you for your time today and your support in honoring our great home, the United States of America.

I am happy to answer any questions that you may have.