



**Written Proponent Testimony
Before the House Finance Committee
Senate Bill 331
December 7, 2016**

Mr. Chairman and members of the House Finance Committee, The Ohio Manufacturers' Association (OMA) is pleased to offer testimony in support of amendments added to Senate Bill 331.

As you may know, Ohio ranks in the top four states in the U.S. manufacturing economy. Manufacturing is Ohio's leading economic sector, with more than 691,000 Ohioans employed in the industry with an average annual wage of more than \$57,000.

New portions of Substitute Senate Bill 331 are intended to help protect and grow those jobs and retain economic investment in Ohio.

Specifically the OMA supports the changes which prohibit local governments from establishing minimum wage rates different from the rate required by state law and granting private employers exclusive authority to establish policies concerning job related issues, such as hours and location of work, scheduling and fringe benefits.

These protections will ensure that Ohio's manufacturing outlook remains competitive within the country and allows our state to compete on a global scale.

We thank the committee members for accepting Substitute Senate Bill 331 and urge your support of the bill.