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WIDENER TESTIFIES ON RESOLUTION TO BOLSTER UAS INDUSTRY IN OHIO

LEGISLATION CALLS FOR TESTING SITE DESIGNATION FOR UNMANNED AERIAL SYSTEMS



COLUMBUS – State Senator Chris Widener (R-Springfield) gave sponsor testimony today in the Ohio Senate Ways and Means and Economic Development Committee on Senate Concurrent Resolution 19, legislation urging the Federal Aviation Administration to choose Ohio as a test site for Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS) integration into the National Airspace System.

“This resolution is about job creation in an emerging industry for Ohio,” said Widener. “We need to continue to be vigilante in promoting the Miami Valley’s existing defense-aerospace assets in order to capitalize on the enormous job creation potential in the UAS industry.”

The Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration is required to select six test ranges for the integration of UAS into the National Airspace System. Widener’s resolution calls for Ohio to be selected as one of those test sites.

According to the Association of Unmanned Vehicle Systems International, more than 23,000 jobs could be created in the United States over the next 15 years as a result of the integration of UAS into the National Airspace System.

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Senator Chris Widener serves the people of the 10th Senate District, which includes Clark, Greene and Madison Counties. He is chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, and a member of the Senate Ways & Means & Economic Development, Government Oversight & Reform, and Rules & Reference committees.

If you would like a high resolution copy of the image, please contact Adam Wright at (614) 466-3780