



**Senator Jim Hughes**  
**16<sup>th</sup> Ohio Senate District**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**HUGHES ANNOUNCES PASSAGE OF REGULATORY REFORM BILL**

*SB 2 creates new business impact analysis tool, development of customer service standards*

*COLUMBUS*— State Senator Jim Hughes (R- Columbus) today announced that the Ohio Senate has approved Senate Bill 2, his legislation that seeks to reform the way businesses are regulated in Ohio, removing those rules and regulations that act as barriers to job creation and retention while also helping improve compliance.

“As we work to showcase Ohio as a place to open or expand a business, it is critical that we ensure our regulations are not overly burdensome,” Hughes said. “The reforms contained in SB 2 will help employers better navigate state regulations so that they can focus on creating jobs instead of dealing with more government red tape.”

SB 2 creates the Common Sense Initiative Office (CSIO), which was originally established by Governor Kasich via executive order. This office will be responsible for developing a small business impact analysis tool that will be used by state agencies to determine any adverse impact a new rule or regulation could have on small businesses. The analysis must be submitted to the Joint Committee on Agency Rule Review (JCARR) and CSIO when new rules are filed or when they are undergoing the five-year review process. JCARR would be permitted to invalidate a rule if it determines that the regulatory purpose does not outweigh the impact to businesses, which Hughes noted adds a new level of accountability to the rulemaking process.

In addition, the bill creates the Small Business Advisory Council, a nine-member panel that will advise the Governor, Lt. Governor and CSIO on any adverse impact proposed rules may have on small businesses. State agencies would also be required to develop customer service standards for employees.

SB 2 now moves to the Ohio House for further consideration.