



Senator Mark Wagoner
2nd Ohio Senate District

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Mallory Heidorn
(614) 466-8060

**WAGONER NAMED TO CONSTITUTIONAL MODERNIZATION
COMMISSION**

COLUMBUS – State Senator Mark Wagoner (R – Ottawa Hills) was recently appointed to the newly-created Ohio Constitutional Modernization Commission. The Republican lawmaker was chosen by Senate President Thomas Niehaus (R – New Richmond) to serve as one of twelve legislative members of the 32-member, bipartisan committee that will be charged with examining Ohio’s Constitution and making recommendations to modernize and improve it.

“Ohio’s Constitution is an extraordinary document that warrants careful examination,” Senator Wagoner said. “I take this responsibility very seriously. I look forward to eager to working with my colleagues in studying our Constitution suggesting needed changes. I would like to thank President Niehaus for the opportunity to serve on this valuable Commission.”

Similar to the Ohio Constitutional Revision Commission that met in the 1970s, the Commission will provide the framework for a new constitution should voters approve the constitutional convention question that will be included on the 2012 ballot. A question pertaining to the need for a constitutional convention comes before Ohio voters once every 20 years. If no constitutional convention is called for, the Commission will issue a report to the Ohio General Assembly suggesting amendments to modernize and improve Ohio’s Constitution.

The Ohio Constitutional Modernization Commission will be composed of 12 legislators, and those legislators will then select 20 individuals chosen from outside the General Assembly. Legislative appointees to the commission recently gathered to discuss preliminary procedures and administrative needs. All the members of the Commission are expected to be appointed by late February of 2012.

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Senator Wagoner represents Ohio’s 2nd Senate District which contains Erie and Wood Counties, along with portions of Lucas and Ottawa Counties. He is currently serving as Chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee.