



## **Lions Clubs of Michigan**

SD10 and MD11, Lions International

April 24, 2017

Mr. Chairman and Committee Members,

My name is Justin Faber, Council Chair for the Lions of Michigan. As background, the Lions of Michigan have over 12,000 Lions members with over 500 community based clubs. On behalf of the Lions of Michigan I would like to thank Chairman Cole for bringing up this important bill. The Lions of Michigan are in strong support of House Bill 4160 and urge your support.

Each year the Lions of Michigan raise over \$1 million through our roadway fundraising efforts. These efforts have been occurring for generations and HB 4160 will ensure our organization can continue its White Cane fundraising efforts. 100% of the funds raised go to support worthwhile and impactful charities across our state. Some of the projects we support include:

- Leader Dogs for the Blind – An organization that enhances the lives of blind and visually impaired individuals.
- Eversight of Michigan – An organization dedicated to restoring eyesight to blind or visually impaired individuals all while working in partnership with our Secretary of State to increase organ donors
- Bear Lake Youth Camp – A camp that provides opportunities for youth with special needs to enhance self-worth, attain independence and realize their full potential in life.

The safety measures that are included in the H-1 substitute are best practices which our clubs currently engage in and we are in strong support of those safety measures. We believe this legislation is a good balance of allowing charities to continue long-standing fundraising efforts while striking a balance with safety. We have not been able to find one occurrence where someone was injured in our nearly 100 years of existence while collecting on the roadways.

I strongly urge the committees support and passage of House Bill 4160.

Justin Faber  
Council Chairman  
Lions of Michigan

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