



Department of  
Agriculture

John R. Kasich | Governor

David T. Daniels | Director

**Sunset Review Committee**  
**Testimony on the Ohio Amusement Ride Safety Advisory Board**  
**Deputy Director John Schlichter**  
**November 16, 2015**

Member of the Sunset Review Committee, my name is John Schlichter. I am a Deputy Director at the Ohio Department of Agriculture. Thank you for allowing me to provide testimony on behalf of the Ohio Amusement Ride Safety Advisory Board. The Ohio Department of Agriculture is respectfully asking for re-authorization of the Ohio Amusement Ride Safety Advisory Board.

The Amusement Ride Safety Advisory Board provides advice and recommendations to the Director of the Ohio Department of Agriculture. Pursuant to Ohio Revised Code § 1711.52, the advisory board's purpose is to study the proposed rules to be adopted by the director regarding amusement ride safety and any subject pertaining to amusement ride safety, including administrative, engineering, and technical subjects. The advisory board is comprised of thirteen members (eleven appointed by the Governor, two by the General Assembly). The board meets four times a year. Approximately four to six hours are spent by ODA personnel preparing and working the Amusement Ride Safety Advisory Board per meeting.

The Amusement Ride Safety Advisory Board has provided assistance and support to the Ohio Department of Agriculture and its Amusement Ride Safety Division for many years. The Department is focused on providing a quality-driven public safety program to protect Ohio's citizenry by helping to ensure that Ohio's amusement rides are safe and secure. The Department does this by maintaining high-caliber inspectors who perform comprehensive inspections of amusement devices while also heightening the integrity of the Amusement Ride industry within the state by working closely with entertainment entities doing business in Ohio.

The Ohio Department of Agriculture's past and present source of funding includes self-generated revenue brought in by the agency's role in regulating amusement devices. No general revenue funding (GRF) supports this agency's operations at this time. The Division's spending authority for next two fiscal years is approximately \$1.2 million dollars each fiscal year (AGR Fund 5780, Line Item 700620).

Members of the Ohio Advisory Board on Amusement Ride Safety are entitled to reimbursement for actual and necessary expenses incurred for attending meetings, but historically members have declined seeking reimbursement.

Thank you for your time. I would be happy to answer any questions you may have regarding the Ohio Amusement Ride Safety Advisory Board.