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House of Representatives

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Blake Carpenter
Representative, 81st District

02/12/2018

House Transportation Committee

Supporting Testimony for HB2596

Good afternoon chairman and committee members. Thank you for having a committee hearing on HB2596 which is about the Gadsden Flag license plate. I have had many people indicate to me that they would put this license plate on their vehicles, and I believe it wouldn't be too difficult to obtain the 500 people to produce these license plates. There is no sponsoring organization for this plate.

Here is some of the history of the Gadsden Flag:

"The **Gadsden flag** is a historical American flag with a yellow field depicting a rattlesnake coiled and ready to strike. Positioned below the rattlesnake are the words "DONT TREAD ON ME." The flag is named after American general and politician Christopher Gadsden (1724–1805), who designed it in 1775 during the American Revolution. It was used by the Continental Marines as an early motto flag, along with the Moultrie flag." (Wikipedia)

Also, per Wikipedia: "The Gadsden flag has become a popular specialty license plate in several states. As of 2018, the following states offer the option of obtaining a Gadsden flag specialty license plate: Alabama, Arizona, Maryland, Missouri, Montana, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, and Virginia."

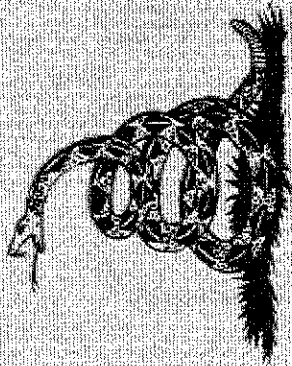
Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Blake Carpenter', written over a horizontal line.

Representative Blake Carpenter

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**DON'T TREAD
ON ME**