

FAMILY
and
child
ABUSE PREVENTION CENTER

May 12, 2016

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State Senator Joe Uecker
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Dear Senator Uecker,

My name is Casandra Durfey and I serve as the Supervisor of Domestic Violence Programs for the Family and Child Abuse Prevention Center in Toledo, Ohio. The mission of the Family and Child Abuse Prevention Center is to intervene and educate to reduce family violence, and our core values are to provide high quality service, treat all with dignity and respect, foster collaboration and embrace change.

I am writing today regarding a potential amendment to House Bill 359 relating to the transfer of wireless phone numbers.

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It is my understanding that this amendment seeks to provide victims of domestic violence with the ability to retain their wireless telephone number and device when they are in the process of separating from an abuser who happens to be the holder of the wireless account for that number.

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Unfortunately, in Ohio right now a victim of domestic violence who is not the account holder can't retain an existing telephone number unless the abuser allows this change to the account. In many domestic violence situations this sort of approval from the abuser to separate out a phone number to the victim is almost impossible.

The Family and Child Abuse Prevention Center is encouraged to hear about the potential amendment to House Bill 359 that can be extremely helpful to domestic violence victims. The amendment requires a court order to direct the wireless carrier to transfer the phone number and bill responsibility to another person. In this scenario the abuser is removed from this transaction.

Christie Jenkins, Ph.D., LPCC S
Chief Executive Officer

We strongly believe that this amendment would address a paramount issue for victims of domestic violence: how they stay in touch with family, friends and other supporters as they work to gain independence from an abuser.

Sincerely,

Casandra Durfey
Casandra Durfey,
Family and Child Abuse Prevention Center



Intervene and Educate to Reduce Family Violence
www.fcapc.org



A+
BBB
Rating