

My name is Verne E. Taylor Jr, born and raised Deaf all my life. I used American Sign language as my native language and English as my second language. I am here today to ask you to support the House Bill No. 115. This bill will highly benefit for those with communication barriers. In the past I have been in 2 motorcycle accidents. During those two accidents, if it was not for my son's badge which I carried with me, my right to effective communication would have been denied. While I was regaining my conscious those officers realized that I am Deaf person and that I needed an interpreter for effective communication.

With this bill passed, it will allow the law enforcement have access to this information store in the system about the person communication disability and can provide an effective communication mode. This database will show the proper communication mode needed for those with communication barriers.

This is bill is significant due to many incidents happening out there in Ohio. For instance, I like to explain about incident that happened to a Deaf/Blind woman whom was assumed that the proper acceptable communication mode was to use a video remote Interpreting. However, the communication mode was not effective since she is blind and needed tactile communication (a real live American Sign Language). With the access information in the database will allow the proper choice for communication need. I highly encourage this bill to be pass for those with communication disability and provide the proper effective communication for all.