



LIEUTENANT COLONEL PAUL M. KAVANAUGH
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Chairman Hambley, Vice-Chair Patton, Ranking Member Brown and members of the House Civil Justice Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide proponent testimony on Senate Bill 31. I am Lieutenant Colonel Paul Kavanaugh, an Operations Officer in the 178th Wing at Springfield, Ohio. Senate Bill 31 allows certain designated professions within our organization the ability to remove their name, residential, and familial information from any record made publically available to include those on the internet or a publically accessible database. This bill adds protections, not exemptions, for the Ohio airmen participating in duties directly related to remotely piloted aircraft, including, but not limited to, Pilots, Sensor Operators and Mission Intelligence Personnel.

I will share with the committee a consequential example of easily accessible personal information. On May 4, 2016, our 178th Operations Group received notification that a "hit list" posted online by the Islamic State Hacking Division named one of our fellow 178th Wing Airman and included not only a recent picture but also her current Ohio residential address. The 178th Operations Group immediately contacted this Airman, verified her immediate safety, and notified them of the source document. Prior to joining the Ohio Air National Guard, this Airman served as an active duty sensor operator for the MQ-1/ MQ-9 weapons system stationed at Creech Air Force Base, Nevada. Unfortunately, while stationed at Creech, some publically released information included their image and name. Resultantly, the available information and an inexpensive, easy internet search enabled our adversaries to obtain not only a current image but also her public tax records and thus their Ohio address.

Passing Senate Bill 31 ensures simple additional protections for the Ohio citizen Airmen and their families who dedicate their lives to the safety and security of all Americans. I am appreciative for the Ohio legislature's commitment to the continued protection of our members and their families. I respectfully ask for your support of Senate Bill 31 and welcome any questions you have at this time.