



House Bill 3 Sponsor Testimony
House Finance Committee
May 19, 2020
Representative Janine Boyd
9th House District

Good afternoon Co-Chairs Oelslager and Callender, Vice Chair Scherer, Ranking member Cera, and members of the House Finance Committee. It's my honor to share my testimony with you today as joint sponsor of House Bill 3-Aisha's Law, with my joint sponsor, Representative Carruthers.

In front of you is the final version of House Bill 3, which represents nearly 18 months of IP meetings with dozens of stakeholders; multiple redrafts; some very heart breaking calls with survivors and advocates; eye opening calls with various centers of excellence on DV policy across the country; as well as the Governor's office, at every stage of development of this legislation. I promised Aisha's family, her friends, her colleagues and her students that I would leave no stone unturned. And so that is how we crafted this law that bears her name.

As you are aware, Aisha's law creates a continuum of protections for victims of domestic violence. Let me reiterate once more, this bill does not amend the spectrum of domestic violence laws, the focus is on extreme risk and lethal situations.

House Bill 3 makes an appropriation of \$150,000 to the Ohio Police Officers' Training Academy (OPATA) for the purpose of creating a Lethality Assessment Screening Tool for our state, and then training our peace officers on effectively using that Tool. This appropriation amount was brought to the joint sponsors by the Office of the Attorney General after numerous discussions with myself and Rep. Carruthers, followed by conversations with the Office of Criminal Justice Services and Dr. Jackie Campbell, principal investigator and creator of evidence-based risk assessment screening tools and protocols used in other states and municipalities.

Per our conversations with the Office of the Attorney General they provided us the following exchange to confirm how they would intend to roll out OPATA's training. The office of the Attorney General met with the Office of Criminal Justice Services to discuss the training requirements and exchanged background knowledge on how Dr. Campbell and other threat assessment tools are taught and have developed the following plan of action which will save the

state money, while providing lifesaving training on the Aisha's Law lethality protocol and fulfilling the mission to save lives.

In peace officers' basic training program OPATA will offer training on the required tools outlined in section 109.744 of House Bill 3, which can be found on lines 48-63. This will be done by training OPOTA certified trainers during their annual refresher course required by OPOTA. Dr. Campbell and a representative from the other tool will be invited to train our trainers. There will be costs associated with development of the coursework as well as costs associated with the experts that will have to bring in. Finally, the Attorney General's office requested the appropriation of \$150,000 for curriculum development, training costs, expenses of the experts (Dr. Campbell and company), and any other cost OPOTA incurs as part of implementing this legislation. I believe that you'll agree, this is a small amount for our State to pay in order to prevent future tragedies like Aisha's.

Thank you Co-Chairs Oelslager and Callender, Vice Chair Scherer, Ranking member Cera, and members of the House Finance Committee for the opportunity to offer sponsor testimony for House Bill 3. My joint sponsor and I are happy to answer any questions you may have at this time.

