



February 4, 2020

Ohio House State and Local Government Committee
Proponent Testimony - H.B. 405
Ohio Treasurer Robert Sprague

Chairman Wiggam, Vice-Chair Stephens, Ranking Member Kelly, and members of the House State and Local Government committee,

I thank you for allowing me to present my thoughts on House bill 405.

As you all are aware the cost of adoption can be formidable. As the Director of Spirit of Faith Adoptions, I can give you a complete analysis of why that is, however, that is not the purpose for this letter. The purpose of this letter is to support this very much needed bill and help those wishing to adopt. I wholeheartedly support your efforts and only wish to add that often times the biggest challenge for those adopting privately, are the upfront costs since the Adoption Tax Credit can only be applied at the end of a successful adoption. This bill will be an important avenue to assist families in the beginning stages of their adoption journey. Families often ask our Agency for advice on raising money for an adoption. At this time, our response is limited to seeking grants and bank loans. This Bill will be another positive option we can present to them.

I thank you again for allowing me to add my support for this bill and I join others in urging passage.

Very Truly Yours;

Phillip D. Wurster
Director
Spirit of Faith Adoptions