



Chairman Ginter, Vice Chair LaTourette, Ranking Member Boyd, and members of the House Community and Family Advancement Committee thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak today as a proponent of Substitute HB 427. My name is Tim Farley. I am the Executive Director of the RU Recovery Ministries. RU has its headquarters in Rockford, IL. We have several hundred chapters in the United States and several hundred chapters in 36 foreign countries. RU Recovery is a faith-based, Christ-centered program designed to rescue, recover, and restore those in addictive behaviors with the power of the victorious life found only in Jesus Christ.

I have been involved with the RU Recovery program for over 16 years. I have been a local chapter director in three different states: Ohio, Tennessee and Florida. I have ran the RU Program in Ohio at the Delaware County jail, Tri- County jail, and Morrow County jail. In Tennessee at the Rutherford County jail and in the Marion County jail in Florida. I also had a weekly RU Program in the Protective Custody ward at the Marion Correctional Facility in Marion, Ohio for almost a year. Before becoming the Executive Director, I was the SE Asia Director based in Manila, Philippines where we have started over 800 chapters.

I spent 25 years of my life addicted to alcohol. During those years, I tried several programs to stay sober. I only found victory for short periods of time and always returned to my addiction to alcohol. I had almost given up on ever having complete victory over my addiction. But after my release from jail in October 1998, I got involved in a local church in Delaware, Ohio and I returned to the "faith" that I had been taught in my childhood and God started to change me from the inside out. This was not an overnight process, but neither was becoming a drunk. I have now been sober for over 19 years, but it's far more about the joyous life I now have, and not the amount of time I have abstained from alcohol.

I got involved with the RU Recovery program in 2001 and it has taught me how to have a daily walk with the Lord, that has proven to be my strength and reason for success. Through the years, God has given me the opportunity to take what I have learned and to teach hundreds of others to obtain long-term recovery through the RU program.

Thank you for your attention and giving me this opportunity to testify. I would be happy to answer any questions at this time.