



September 25, 2017

Honorable Kevin Bacon  
Chair, Senate Judiciary Committee  
1 Capitol Square, Ground Floor  
Columbus, OH 43215

**2100 Stella Court**  
**Columbus, Ohio 43215**  
Phone: (614) 252-8417  
Fax: (614)252-7987  
[www.OCCAONLINE.org](http://www.OCCAONLINE.org)

Jennifer Turnes, President  
Lusanne Green, Executive Director

Alvis - Columbus, Dayton,  
Chillicothe

Community Assessment & Treatment  
Services, Inc. - Cleveland

Community Corrections Association, Inc -  
Youngstown

Community Correctional Center,  
Talbert House -Lebanon

Community Transition Center - Lancaster

Community Treatment & Correction  
Center, Inc. - Canton

CROSSWAEH CBCF, Oriana House, Inc. -  
Tiffin

Judge Nancy R. McDonnell CBCF,  
Oriana House, Inc. - Cleveland

Mahoning County CBCF, Community  
Corrections Association, Inc. -  
Youngstown

Ohio Link Corrections & Treatment, Inc. -  
Lima & Toledo

Oriana House, Inc. - Akron, Cleveland,  
Marietta, Sandusky

Salvation Army Harbor Light - Cleveland

Summit County CBCF Oriana House, Inc. -  
Akron

Talbert House - Cincinnati

Turtle Creek, Talbert House - Lebanon

Volunteers of America of Greater Ohio -  
Cincinnati, Dayton, Mansfield, Toledo

Dear Chairman Bacon:

I am writing on behalf of the membership of the Ohio Community Corrections Association (OCCA) in support of House Bill 6 that would prohibit websites and other entities that publish criminal records materials from charging fees to correct or remove those records.

As you know, Ohio's open records laws provide private companies with access to arrest records and other information drawn from criminal records data bases. Some websites and other outlets publish the arrest photos and other details contained in those records. When individuals are acquitted or have their formal records expunged, the informal records left behind on these websites persist with very real negative consequences for employment, housing options, and reputation.

As a trade association representing the halfway houses around Ohio that work with both individuals re-entering local communities from prison and those who are being diverted from ever entering prison, our members are acutely aware of the stigma attached to a criminal record. We are therefore particularly outraged that there are companies operating in Ohio whose business model is based on exploiting the vulnerable criminal justice-involved population by charging hefty payments for the correction or removal of erroneous or outdated records. We therefore urge the passage of House Bill 6.

Thank you for the opportunity to weigh in on the common sense fix that House Bill 6 provides to a flaw in our system. Please feel free to contact me at 614-378-9808 or via email at [lgreen@occaonline.org](mailto:lgreen@occaonline.org). if I can be of further assistance as you consider this legislation.

Warmest Regards,

V. Lusanne Green  
OCCA Executive Director