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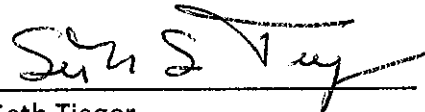
Chairman and Members of the House Judiciary Committee:

I am Seth S. Tieger, Assistant Hamilton County Prosecutor and office Liaison to the Heroin Coalition Task Force. I am here today as a proponent to provide testimony for House Bill 270, which would create a criminal penalty for drug dealers who cause someone's death because they used drugs.

As an initial matter, I would like to express my appreciation to, Rep Jonathan Dever, for reaching out and seeking input before introducing this bill. We are thankful for the opportunity we had to work with him. The Prosecutor's Office always appreciates the opportunity to work with lawmakers in drafting legislation before it is introduced, and I would like to thank Rep. Dever for taking the time to do just that.

Heroin use throughout Ohio has become increasingly prevalent. The drug is cheap and it's easy to obtain. Its users become quickly addicted, needing more and more to just survive. However, more frequently their next dose results in their death due to a variety of reasons from purity to whatever the heroin is mixed with. This bill would make it simple and more clear cut to allow prosecutors to effectively prosecute the dealers who poison our residents with heroin and cause tragedy for many Ohio families.

Thank you for the opportunity to present this Interested Party testimony today. I am happy to answer any questions you may have.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Seth S. Tieger", written over a horizontal line.

Seth Tieger
Assistant Hamilton County Prosecutor