

HB 572 Written Testimony: Tara Kehl
House Aging and Long Term Care Committee
May 23, 2018

Chairman Arndt and Members of the Committee:

My name is Tara Kehl. I have worked at the Coshocton County Board as a paraprofessional for 22 years and two years before that as a substitute. I play a key role in the success of my students. It is extremely unjust that our work is de-valued by having our service credit reduced to 9 months instead of twelve. Paraprofessionals work side-by-side with teachers, who get a year of service credit for each school year.

In the DD setting, the teacher and paraprofessionals work hand in hand to achieve the best education as possible for our students. Over the years, many students have been successful in learning life skills and transitioning into the working world, or a workshop setting. This happens due to the teacher and parapro working together to make that happen.

I do not have any plans on retiring anytime soon, yet with this new rule, it will take me many more years of service to make up the three months lacking per school year. Please pass House Bill 572 to correct this situation.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Tara Kehl (Paraprofessional) Hopewell School