



Safe Children, Stable Families, Supportive Communities

Proponent Testimony

Am. H.B. 137

Government Oversight and Reform Committee

April 11, 2018

Mary Wachtel, Director of Public Policy

Public Children Services Association of Ohio

mary@pcsao.org

614.224.5802

Chair Coley, Vice-Chair Uecker, Ranking Member Schiavoni and members of the Committee, the Public Children Services Association of Ohio (PCSAO) is writing in support of Am. H.B. 137, to add peace officers to the list of mandatory reporters. Protecting Ohio's children is a shared priority for children services and the community at large, including law enforcement. This bill will help clarify and codify current practice in the law enforcement community related to reporting child abuse and neglect. For these reasons, we support the bill.

We appreciate Rep. Kennedy Kent's leadership on this issue and ask for your support of this legislation. Please feel free to contact me if you have questions regarding the impact of this bill on children services.

Thank you for your efforts on behalf of Ohio's children and families.

