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The Honorable Kevin Bacon
Chairman, Senate Judiciary Committee
1 Capitol Square, Statehouse Rm 035
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Dear Chairman Bacon,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony in support of House Bill 63, "Judy's Law." This legislation, sponsored by Representative Hughes, is targeted at a particularly horrible class of crimes -- ones that permanently and seriously disfigure victims.

The bill is based on the tragic case of Judy Malinowski, who was doused with gasoline and set on fire. Judy remains hospitalized with serious burns. Her ex-boyfriend was sentenced to 11 years in prison for aggravated arson for the crime. The ex-boyfriend was also charged with felonious assault, which carries a maximum sentence of only eight years. Judy's Law would give judges the option to sentence offenders to an additional five to 20 years in felonious assault cases where the victim is permanently and seriously disfigured.

The tragic, permanent harm caused to victims, such as Judy, warrants this additional punishment. I strongly encourage the legislature to pass House Bill 63.

Very respectfully yours,

Mike DeWine
Ohio Attorney General