

Rich Weber
Proponent Testimony
Ohio Senate Bill 207
November 28, 2017

Chairman Bacon, Vice Chairman Dolan, Ranking Member Thomas, and members of the Ohio Senate Judiciary Committee, thank you for giving me the opportunity to provide written testimony in support of Senate Bill 207.

My name is Rich Weber. On November 9, 2014 my sister Monica Weber Jeter passed away from injuries sustained by the brutal stabbing and beating at the hands of her husband Andre. She left behind her 5 children, 2 parents, and 5 siblings as well as a huge extended family of aunts, uncles, cousins, and nieces and nephews. This tragedy could have been avoided if Ohio had followed suit with the majority of other states and had a law on the books that made attempted strangulation a felony with a minimum 1 year prison sentence.

The murder of my sister could have been prevented. In January of 2014 Monica's husband Andre strangled her until she lost consciousness and one of her children had to call 911 to save her. After this event Monica's husband Andre served 11 days and was set free. Had Ohio had a law in place that would make strangulation a felony Andre would have most likely been in prison in October and that would have given Monica a chance to get strong and get herself and her children away from this monster who was supposed to be her husband. I am strongly urging Ohio law makers to pass and enact Senate Bill 2017 – Monica's Law. I hope no other family will endure what my sister Monica's family has over the last three years.

Thank you.