



# NATIONWIDE CHILDREN'S®

*When your child needs a hospital, everything matters.*

November 9, 2020

Chairman George Lang  
House Criminal Justice Committee  
The Ohio House of Representatives

Re: Statement of Support for HB 558

Chairman Lang, Vice Chairman Plummer, Ranking Member Leland, and Members of the Committee:

I am writing in support of House Bill 558, which would require public children services agencies to report child abuse or neglect in military families to the appropriate military authorities. House Bill 558 eliminates information silos and promotes collaboration between public children services agency and the armed forces.

I am Dr. Megan Letson and I am Program Director for the Child Abuse Pediatrics Fellowship at Nationwide Children's Hospital, Division Chief of Child and Family Advocacy and Medical Director at The Center for Family Safety and Healing.

The Center for Family Safety and Healing fully addresses all aspects of family violence, including child abuse and neglect, teen dating abuse, domestic violence and elder abuse, thanks to an impressive combination of public and private resources.

We use a multidisciplinary team approach which includes:

- A one-stop, coordinated response to family violence for individuals and families through partnerships with law enforcement, child protective services, prosecution and a wide range of community resources
- An expanded forum for education, advocacy and ongoing research

HB 558 aligns with our mission to end the cycle of family violence and restore hope to families.

Sincerely,

Megan Letson, MD  
The Center for Family Safety and Healing  
Nationwide Children's Hospital