

BON SECOURS MERCY HEALTH

January 24, 2020

RE: HB 177

Dear Committee Members,

Bon Secours Mercy Health is one of the largest Catholic health systems in the nation with locations in NY, MD, VA, SC, FL, KY, OH and Ireland. Nearly 1700 physicians are part of our ministry and more relevant over 1200 advanced practice clinicians (APCs). Nurse practitioners (NPs) make up the largest profession within our group of APCs, including nearly 400 NPs in the state of Ohio. Ohio's mandated standard care agreements cause additional administrative burden to our system operations team, physicians and nurse practitioners with no clear value. The quality of care provided by all of our clinicians is monitored through standardized processes. There is no demonstrated improvement in patient outcomes associated with the standard care agreement. With healthcare costs at an all-time high and access to care at an all-time low, this type of administrative burden and associated cost is not what we want in serving our patients. With that said, we express our healthcare system's heartfelt support of HB 177 and we urge you to move this important legislation forward.

Sincerely,



Kevin Letz, DNP
Vice President Nursing