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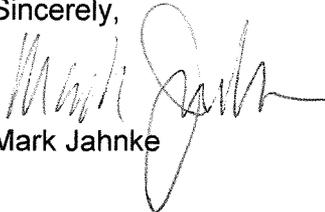
To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to express my support for HB 243. HB 243 would mandate insurance coverage for hearing aids for children. It is without question that the small additional premium cost caused by this mandate will be far outweighed by the savings to the public by reducing the need to require special education services for hearing impaired children.

Since Ohio implemented newborn hearing screening in 2004, children are identified with hearing loss by six months of age. It simply makes no sense to identify children with hearing loss but not provide them with the resources necessary to mitigate that hearing loss.

Please support HB 243.

Sincerely,



Mark Jahnke