



**Representative Randi Clites**  
75<sup>th</sup> House District  
**Sponsor Testimony- House Bill 727**

**House Health Committee**  
**December 1, 2020**

Chairman Lipps, Vice-Chair Holmes, Ranking Member Boyd, and the members of the House Health Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide sponsor testimony on House Bill 727. HB 727 would expand the eligibility for the Children with Medical Handicaps (CMH) Program to individuals aged 26 and younger, the current age limit is 21 years old. CMH is an important program within the Ohio Department of Health that supports children with special healthcare needs and their families.

The program funds services for the diagnosis and treatment of eligible conditions, assists in increasing access to care across the state by collaborating with public health nurses and local health departments, and assists families as a payer of last resort for medical treatments.

Under current federal and state law, young adults can stay on their parents' insurance coverage until age 26. However, the current limit for the CMH program creates a gap of 5 years. This gap can cause young adults to struggle to access and afford necessary treatment and care.

We can support Ohio's future by ensuring young adults can access affordable treatment and care while establishing themselves in a career path and working towards their goals. I would like to thank Representative Fraizer for joining me as a sponsor of this bill and thank you all you for the opportunity to testify on this legislation. I would be happy to take any questions.