



House State and Local Government Committee
HB 586
Proponent Testimony
December 8, 2020

Chairman Wiggam, Vice Chairman Stephens, Ranking Member Kelly, and members of the House State and Local Government Committee, thank you for your consideration of HB 586. The Ohio Association of Goodwill Industries (OAGI) supports HB 586 and appreciates Representatives Kelly and Greenspan for bringing this issue to the General Assembly. The passage of HB 586 will raise awareness of the Community Rehabilitation Program (CRP) and increase procurement opportunities for certified CRP suppliers and increase employment opportunities for individuals with barriers to employment.

Goodwill Industries is a network of independent, non-profit organizations with a mission to create pathways to independence through employment. Goodwill assists people secure a job by helping with resume writing, interview skills, and supported job searches. We also provide transferrable skills such as soft skills, technology training, and industry-recognized credentials in classroom and individualized settings. Finally, we create jobs in our stores and other social enterprises. An essential part of our social enterprises stem from CRP contracts with state and local entities. Half of our members are certified Community Rehabilitation Program suppliers. These Goodwills provide services and goods around the state. As a result, we employ people to complete light assembly orders, provide unarmed security in public buildings, conduct janitorial services at rest areas and public buildings, and more. These are steady jobs that result in stability for the employee as well as for Goodwill Industries, the non-profit employer. Passage of HB 586 will result in more opportunities to secure CRP contracts and ensure that the Community Rehabilitation Program is the economic and workforce development catalyst it was intended to be.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer our support of this bill. If you have questions or need additional information, please contact me at EmilyTurner@GoodwillOhio.org or at (614) 583-0319.

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