



**Senate Finance Subcommittee on Health & Medicaid
House Bill 287 – Military Medicaid Waivers
Proponent Testimony
4 March 2020**

Chairman Huffman, Vice Chair Hackett, Ranking Member Thomas, and members of the Senate Finance Subcommittee on Health and Medicaid, thank you for the opportunity to present written testimony in support of House Bill 287.

The American Legion Department of Ohio is the largest veterans-service organization in the State of Ohio, with a membership of over 90,000 wartime veterans. The American Legion's positions represent the view of its members and are based on our Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation, National Security, Americanism, and Children & Youth.

The American Legion recognizes the quality-of-life of the individual servicemember and their respective family members directly impacts military readiness. House Bill 287 will add to the quality-of-life of the military servicemembers' family but ensuring that they will receive critical support services for their family member with special healthcare needs by granting eligibility for a Medicaid waiver as long as the individual was eligible for Medicaid home and community-based services in another state at the time of their transition to Ohio.

Active-duty service members receive permanent change of station (PCS) orders every 2-3 years. To uproot a family is never a seamless process but House Bill 287 can make the transition process easier for active-duty families who have children with special healthcare needs.

We must eliminate any barriers that may prevent active-duty family unit from transitioning together. When the servicemember can be assured that their family can receive the critical services they need, that servicemember can remain focused on its individual role in protecting our nation.

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Respectfully,

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