



February 5, 2020

The Honorable Dave Burke
Chairman Senate Health, Human Services and Medicaid
Ohio Senate
Statehouse
Columbus, OH 43215

Dear Chairman Burke,

On behalf of Nationwide Children's Hospital and the undersigned children's hospitals, I am writing in support of House Bill 65, sponsored by Representative Carfagna, to the House floor for a vote. My name is Megan Letson and I am the Medical Director at the Center for Family Safety & Healing and the Division Chief for Child and Family Advocacy at Nationwide Children's Hospital.

H.B. 65 requires certain licensed child care providers to notify all parents following the conclusion of an investigation by the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) that determines the provider created a serious risk to the health and safety of a child under its care.

While ODJFS tracks and makes public the status of daycare investigations, many parents are either unaware of this resource or never think to monitor it, especially if they have had a positive experience with the daycare. Therefore, requiring parental notification not only helps parents become more informed customers but reinforces our community commitment to the protection of children from abuse and neglect.

At the Center for Family Safety and Healing we fully addresses all aspects of family violence, including child abuse and neglect, teen dating abuse, domestic violence and elder abuse. We aspire to break the cycle of violence through the advocacy, prevention, intervention, treatment and research of family violence by integrating comprehensive services through community interdisciplinary collaboration and evidence-based practices.

As a pediatric healthcare provider, we are mission driven in our commitment to the care, safety and healthy wellbeing of all children. Just like families entrust us to provide the best care for their child's needs, that same trust is placed in those who provide childcare. However, when that trust is broken, and a child is placed at risk, a duty to inform all parents is the right thing to do.

Sincerely,

Megan Letson, MD
The Center for Family Safety and Healing
Nationwide Children's Hospital



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cc: The Honorable Rick Carfagna, House District 68