

Date: March 6, 2019

Re: SB 13 – Proponent Testimony

From: Jeff Wilbarger, Executive Director of The Daughter Project

Dear Ohio Senate Judiciary Committee Members,

I implore you to approve/pass SB 13.

My name is Jeff Wilbarger, I am the Director of The Daughter Project and we have been helping adolescent and adult survivors of sex trafficking in northwest Ohio for 10 years. During that time, we have helped about 50 children and women begin their life-long journey of recovery from this supremely heinous crime and without exception, they were all raped, coerced and manipulated into prostitution. None of them chose prostitution or strip clubs as a career. Moreover, we should all agree that a minor child is incapable of choosing to participate in sex trafficking and should therefore be set free from the burden of proof as a victim just as SB 13 states. The Daughter Project and I fully support SB 13 without reservation and we ask you to do the same for the sake of Ohio children.

Serving God by serving others,

Jeff Wilbarger

Executive Director, The Daughter Project.