

35th House District

Summit County

Columbus Office

Vern Riffe Center
77 S. High Street
10th Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215-6111
(614) 644-6037
(800) 282-0253
(614) 719-0000 (Fax)
Rep35@ohiohouse.gov
www.ohiohouse.gov

Committees

Civil Justice, Ranking Member
Criminal Justice
State and Local Government
Government Oversight

Tavia Galonski
State Representative

Chairman Hillyer, Vice Chair Grendell, and my colleagues on the House Civil Justice Committee, thank you for giving me the opportunity to provide sponsor testimony on House Bill 162.

House Bill 162 would remove derogatory disability terminology. Although the bill as it stands is basic, I am diligently working on a sub bill that would establish the ABLE Committee. The Committee's goal will be to examine the terminology used pertaining to aging, crime victims, disability, and mental health in order to identify terms that are out dated and derogatory. The Committee will then offer recommendations for changes so that the legislature can swiftly take action to bring the ORC to date.

The importance of the Committee is to insure that multiple voices from a wide range of agencies. Twenty-seven different agencies are listed in the bill all of whom have come together previously to bring the issue to the legislature. Moreover, various state agencies will be joining them to ensure a thorough review of the code. The initial meeting will be no more than 90 days after the effective date of the bill.

As mentioned these details are still being analyzed, but I am confident that the sub bill can be brought forward quickly.

Chairman Hillyer, Vice Chair Grendell, and my colleagues on the House Civil Justice Committee, thank you for giving me the opportunity to provide sponsor testimony on House Bill 162. I am open for questions and points of clarification in regards to House Bill 162.