



**STATEMENT OF THE OHIO STATE BAR ASSOCIATION
IN SUPPORT OF HOUSE BILL 567**

Before the House Civil Justice Committee
Representative Brett Hillyer, Chair

Chairman Hillyer, Vice-Chair Grendell, Ranking Member Galonski, and members of the Ohio House Civil Justice Committee: On behalf of the Ohio State Bar Association (“OSBA”), thank you for the opportunity to present written-only testimony in support of House Bill 567.

House Bill 567 requires that all Courts of Common Pleas make their civil docket and relevant case files available for viewing online and accessing remotely 18 months after the effective date of the bill. We believe that remote access to this information is an access to justice issue where discrepancies exist as to whether someone has remote access or doesn’t based purely on where a case is filed. Making this information available to the public will increase the efficiency of our civil legal system and it will save our practitioners and their staff time and resources. As a result, Ohio citizens will be better served by the legal profession.

We are thankful to the sponsors of this bill for working with the Ohio Clerk of Courts Association to ensure that this bill is not overly burdensome, and to ensure that case files containing sensitive information are not accessible by the public.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this legislation.