



Representative Jeff LaRe
77th House District

Representative DJ Swearingen
89th House District

House Bill 607 Sponsor Testimony

Members of the House Criminal Justice Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify today on House Bill 607. This piece of legislation would amend section 2937.23 of the Ohio Revised Code to include the requirement that judges consider the risk to public safety when determining bail.

At the beginning of the year, The Ohio Supreme Court released their decision in the case of *DeBose v. McGuffey*. The majority ruled that a court cannot consider the risk to public safety in determining the financial level of bail, and only the risk of non-appearance should be considered.

We believe that the the ruling that was made on this court case will have dire consequences on the safety of our constituents. House Bill 607 will ensure accused criminals who pose a significant risk to the safety of our communities are not released on bond.

Thank you again for the opportunity to provide testimony on House Bill 607.

We are happy to answer any questions you may have at this time.