

Dear House Representatives,

I am writing to you as a concerned small business owner about House Bill 315 and the effects it will have on all of Ohio. I believe that passing this bill will cause more harm than good. It will cost law enforcement and the judicial system valuable time and money. It will also inadvertently shut down many small businesses in the bail bonding industry and cost many Ohio citizens their jobs. I also believe that if this bill is passed it will lead to an extreme rise in criminal activity throughout Ohio.

Since there will be no bondsmen then the only people who will be responsible for bringing fugitives from justice back into custody will be our law enforcement. Our law enforcement field has already seen a drop in applicants creating a shortage of law enforcement agents. Giving them extra work, such as capturing fugitives from justice and the inevitable increase in crime, I believe we will see less people interested in becoming law enforcement agents. They will also become overworked making it much harder for them to complete their everyday duties.

If we allow this bill to pass, will we see an extreme increase in criminals walking the streets before their trial. While we do believe in innocent until proven guilty, many actual criminals will be able to commit more crimes during their freedom or complete the original crime they set out to perform. For an example if a person is put away due to a domestic violence offence and is let free before their trial, who will stop them from going back to cause more harm to their spouse? Another reason we will see a rise in criminal activity is due to the fact that people will begin to realize that it would not take as much to be released before their trial. This will give many criminals false hope that they will be able to avoid their consequences all together by running from the law. Setting bonds gives criminals another reason to avoid committing crimes especially if they do not have the funds to get out of jail after committing their crimes.

Our judicial system will see a rise in people not showing up for their court hearing if this bill is passed. With more people out of jail before their hearings, you will see more people running to other states in order to avoid prison or jail time. This leads to more missed hearings and more cases scheduled for each judge.

Having bail bondmen in the state of Ohio creates jobs and job security. You will be getting rid of thousands of jobs and hundreds of small businesses if this bill is passed. Bail bondsmen have been helping law enforcement for many years to capture and return fugitives from justice. This also helps the judicial system by making sure the fugitive is in jail in order to attend their future hearings. Passing this bill will cause many Ohio citizens to lose their jobs creating a rise in the Ohio unemployment rate, which in turn will lead to a higher crime rate.

I am sending you this letter in hopes that you will consider not passing House Bill 315 due to the many different ways it will harm our communities.

Thank you for your consideration,
Fat Boys Bail Bonding
Lesley Naylor & Ronald Naylor

