



Safe Children, Stable Families, Supportive Communities

House Families, Aging, and Human Services Committee
Interested Party Testimony HB83
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Chair Manchester, Vice Chair Cutrona, and Ranking Member Liston, I am pleased to submit this written proponent testimony for HB83 on behalf of the members of the Public Children Services Association of Ohio (PCSAO). We are a membership-driven association of Ohio's county public children services agencies (PCSAs) that advocates for sound public policy, promotes program excellence, and builds public value for safe children, stable families, and supportive communities.

We thank Representatives Manchester and Russo for bringing HB83 forward as we believe it will have a positive impact on children and families involved with children services. Kinship caregivers play an important role in children services, stepping forward to care for a kin child when the child's parents cannot. Kinship care helps protect children and maintain strong family, community, and cultural connections. When children cannot remain safely with their parents, other family and friends can provide a sense of security, identity and belonging.

These kinship caregivers are often on limited or fixed incomes and need help to provide a stable, loving home for their kin children. HB83 will ensure that child support—when it is paid-- can be a resource for these caregivers.

We hope that you will consider this perspective while deliberating HB83. Please contact me if you have any questions.