

Ohio General Assembly

77 South High Street
Thirteenth Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215
Phone: (614) 466-1482
Rep71@ohiohouse.gov



Committees
Technology &
Innovation, Chair
Commerce and
Labor
Insurance
Ways and Means

Mark D. Fraizer

State Representative, District 71

Good afternoon Chairwoman Manchester, Vice Chairman Cutrona, and members of Families, Aging and Human Services committee. Thank you for hearing HB 212, expanding eligibility for Medically Handicapped Children to individuals up to age 26.

This is a very simple piece of legislation prevents the health director from excluding handicapped individuals ages 21-26 from medical and financial eligibility requirements for the existing program for medically handicapped children. The 21-26 age range is when the patients are currently aged-out and often times are in need of medical treatments that cannot occur prior to age 21. These individuals are often compounded with the additional complexities of living in poverty, medically handicapped, and with limited support because of their age. This proposed legislation will assist individuals who are currently unable to receive medical benefits but will greatly benefit by revising this age threshold. By allowing individuals currently in the program to become eligible for additional benefits as they age, this legislation will prevent a drastic fiscal impact to the state of Ohio, and allow for treatments that are often required after the age of 21. Our goal is minimize individuals aging out of this critical program over the next five years.

Thank you Chairwoman Manchester, Vice Chairman Cutrona, Ranking member Russo and members of the House Families, Aging and Human Services Committee, I will now hand it over to ranking member Liston, who is my joint sponsor, and I am privileged to partner with her on this subject.