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Proponent Testimony for Ohio House Bill 688

Chairman Lipps, Vice Chair Holmes, Ranking Member Liston, and members of the Ohio House Health Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify today in support of House Bill 688 and to offer background about digital therapeutics.

Orexo U.S. Inc. is a company solely dedicated to supporting clinicians and patients involved in substance use disorder care. We have a pharmaceutical division focused on opioid use disorder, a digital therapeutics division focused on opioid use disorder, problem drinking, and depression, and a research and development division focused on overall substance use disorder and mental health.

Orexo's decision to expand to digital therapeutics was driven by our last ten years of working in the U.S. with providers on the front lines of supporting patients suffering with opioid use disorder. We have consistently seen the significant gaps in provider capacity and patient access to critical behavioral counseling which have only increased since the pandemic. Digital therapeutics offer evidence driven, highly scalable options for counseling that is a complementary adjunct to a provider's delivery of medication assisted treatment for opioid use disorder.

Digital Therapeutics differ from broader digital health tools in that they deliver evidence based therapeutic interventions driven by high quality software programs to prevent, manage, or treat a medical disorder or disease. They are used independently or in concert with medications, devices, or therapies to improve patient care and health outcomes. Digital therapeutics meet ten key principles defined by the Digital Therapeutics Alliance which focus on evidence, quality, experience, privacy, and security. They are authorized by the FDA for specific intended uses and target populations, and can be prescribed or ordered by clinicians as part of an overall patient management plan determined by the clinician.

Orexo's digital therapeutics are designed on best practice standards of delivering cognitive behavioral therapy based content and can be delivered in the privacy of a patient's home on any device that has internet access. They are self-directed by the patient and are highly adaptable to their personal situation. In addition, they provide individualized therapy tailored by unique technology that targets content and exercises based on the patient's responses to questions and content. In addition to our own digital therapies, Orexo U.S. Inc. strongly advocates for additional digital therapeutic options that meet the Digital Therapeutics Alliance definition and ten key principles. Options are particularly import in the area of substance use disorders due to the complex nature of managing that condition for providers and for patients.

Orexo U.S. Inc strongly supports Ohio House Bill 688 because the benefits and impact of piloting digital therapeutics for substance use disorder can potentially be quite significant for the citizens of Ohio. Digital Therapeutics can help to broaden access to treatment and counseling for patients who are unable to receive it today due to many different barriers. Digital therapeutics can also help to extend the capacity of overburdened providers as adjunct tools without compromising the direction and oversight of the provider. Critical real world data can be gathered on how patients are using and

responding to digital therapeutics which can help to inform strategies on improving effectiveness and outcomes including clinical outcomes, economic outcomes, and patient satisfaction outcomes.

Thank you for this opportunity to explain more about digital therapeutics and offer support on behalf of Orexo for House Bill 688. I am happy to answer any questions from the committee.