



1103 Schrock Road, Suite 309, Columbus, OH 43229

Ohio CSEA Directors' Association

P: 614-846-6652

F: 614-846-6693

www.ocda.us

Sarah Fields, Esq. President
Montgomery County

Amy Roehrenbeck, Esq.
Executive Director

Finance Subcommittee on Health and Human Services **HB110**

Joint Written Testimony of Sarah Fields, Esq. and Amy Roehrenbeck, Esq. **Ohio CSEA Directors' Association** **March 4, 2021**

Chairman Roemer, Ranking Member West, and members of the Subcommittee, thank you for the opportunity to submit joint written testimony on HB110 on behalf of the Ohio CSEA Directors' Association (OCDA). OCDA is a membership organization of county child support enforcement agencies (CSEAs), dedicated to strengthening Ohio's child support program. We are Sarah Fields, OCDA President and Assistant Director for the Montgomery County JFS/CSEA, and Amy Roehrenbeck, Executive Director for OCDA.

As you heard from Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) Director Kimberly Henderson, the budget priorities for the department focus on three main goals: stable families, safe children, and economic independence. Ohio's Child Support Program supports these goals by serving one in three children in our state, which equals over one million children in our program. We serve these children for long periods of time, often from infancy to adulthood. We provide services to families of all types, regardless of family income. We work with divorcing parents, never married parents, caretaker relatives, child welfare agencies with custody of children, and others. The child support program encourages responsible parenting, family self-sufficiency, and child well-being by providing services to locate parents, establish parentage, establish child support and medical support orders, collect support, modify orders when circumstances have changed, and enforce orders that are not being paid.

HB110 includes an important investment in the County Subsidy for Child Support Agencies, the Child Support-Local line item, 600502. OCDA has long advocated for an increase to this line item, as the county allocation has been flat-funded since FY12 (and was cut in the FY18-19 budget). This modest investment of \$2.9m in our program can be used to draw down federal dollars at a 66% match rate, thereby maximizing the impact of this increase to our program.



Traci Berry, Esq.
Past President
Tuscarawas County

Lisa Fay
1st Vice President
Portage County

Joyce Bowens
2nd Vice President
Delaware County

Jennifer Tultz
Treasurer
Summit County

Debra Kempers
Secretary
Columbiana County

Connie Bostelman
Toledo District
President
Defiance County

Daniel Thomas
Canton/Cleveland
District President
Trumbull County

Elizabeth Winegar
Columbus District
President
Licking County

Beth Anne Schorr, Esq.
Cincinnati District
President
Warren County

Randall Galbraith, Esq.
Member at Large
Hancock County

Our county child support agencies work diligently to ensure that children across the state receive financial support for a better future. We respectfully request that you retain the investment in the county child support subsidy line item as proposed. This is a critical and much needed investment to our program and we would appreciate your support.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony. Please contact us with any questions.

Respectfully submitted,



Sarah Fields, Esq.
OCDA President
Sarah.Fields@jfs.ohio.gov



Amy Roehrenbeck
OCDA Executive Director
Amy@ocda.us