



**Representative Lisa Sobecki and Jeffrey Crossman
House District 45 and House District 15**

**House Resolution 127: Urging the Deployment of Ohio Cyber Reserve to Investigate State's
Unemployment System Breach
December 7, 2022**

Chair Fraizer, Vice Chair Hall, Ranking Member Lightbody, and members of the House Technology and Innovation Committee: thank you for allowing our offices to present written Sponsor testimony on House Resolution 127.

The decision to push for HR 127 was a result of the recent ODJFS hacking that occurred during the COVID pandemic, resulting in many of our constituents losing access to their accounts, having money stolen from them, and their personal information compromised. While there have been widespread incidents claimed by ODJFS users, no sufficient action has been taken by the Governor's Office to both improve the state's JFS system and safeguard our people's personal data.

Hence, HR 127 would call on Governor DeWine to order the Ohio Cyber Reserve to investigate the state's data breaches within the unemployment compensation computer network and to carry out the following:

1. Determine whether any entity has gained unauthorized access to the unemployment compensation system,
2. Assess the risk that an entity will gain unauthorized access to the system in the future,
3. Provide steps as to whether the current network adequately protects users' personal information, and,
4. Recommend any measures for the Director of Job and Family Services to take to maintain the network's security in accordance with best cybersecurity practices.

Even before the COVID pandemic, our state's unemployment system has been broken and in need of massive changes. We have all heard of the challenges that our constituents have faced navigating the JFS system and how we operate as an ad hoc intermediary to assist when Ohioans don't know who to contact. Our constituents deserve better than having their benefits and data stolen through no fault of their own; they deserve a governmental system that affords every avenue of protection to them.

We appreciate you taking the time and for the opportunity to provide testimony. Feel free to reach out to our offices should you have any questions.