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# Ohio CSEA Directors' Association

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**Senate Finance Committee**  
**HB110**

**Joint Written Testimony of Sarah Fields, Esq. and Amy Roehrenbeck, Esq.**  
**Ohio CSEA Directors' Association**  
**May 13, 2021**

Chairman Dolan, Vice Chair Gavarone, Ranking Member Sykes, and members of the Senate Finance Committee, 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 Matt Damschroder, the health and human services budget priorities 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.



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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,



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