

Senate Judiciary Committee
Proponent Testimony
Senate Bill 182
Written Testimony Only

Alice Faryna, M.D.
June 15, 2021

Dear Chairman Manning, Ranking Member Cecil Thomas, and members of the Senate Judiciary Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit proponent testimony on Senate Bill 182.

My name is Alice Faryna. I am a resident of Columbus Ohio. In my years of practice as a physician I had the experience of providing medical care for incarcerated people either in the emergency room, or in various clinics. It was my obligation to provide the same level of care that I gave to private patients. It seems to me that our current bail bond system works to the advantage of people who are blessed with resources, while those who lack resources are unfairly punished.

When bail is not an option, potentially innocent people may be incarcerated for months. Those unable to post bail are our most vulnerable citizens, often employed in low wage jobs which they will likely lose before they are released. This places an enormous burden on these persons and their families. In a just society we should make every effort to make our justice system equitable for low-risk individuals.

In addition, the current system costs the state of Ohio millions of dollars to house people awaiting trial.

I ask you to consider my testimony and vote yes on this important bill. Thank you again for the opportunity to testify.