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Linda Janes, President  
Lusanne Green, Executive Director

Alvis - Columbus, Dayton,  
Chillicothe

Community Assessment & Treatment  
Services, Inc. - Cleveland

Community Corrections Association, Inc -  
Youngstown

Community Correctional Center,  
Talbert House -Lebanon

Community Restoration Centers of Stark  
County, Inc. - Canton

Community Transition Center - Lancaster

CROSSWAEH CBCF, Oriana House, Inc. -  
Tiffin

Judge Nancy R. McDonnell CBCF,  
Oriana House, Inc. - Cleveland

Mahoning County CBCF, Community  
Corrections Association, Inc. -  
Youngstown

Ohio Link Corrections & Treatment, Inc. -  
Lima & Toledo

Oriana House, Inc. - Akron, Cleveland,  
Marietta, Sandusky

Summit County CBCF Oriana House, Inc. -  
Akron

Talbert House - Cincinnati

The Salvation Army Harbor Light -  
Cleveland

Turtle Creek, Talbert House - Lebanon

Volunteers of America Ohio & Indiana -  
Cincinnati, Dayton, Mansfield, Toledo

March 1, 2022

Chairman Manning, Vice Chair McColley, Ranking Member Thomas and members of the Senate Judiciary Committee; I am Linda Janes, Chief Operating Officer of Alvis, a private nonprofit human services agency with facilities in Columbus, Chillicothe, Lima, and Toledo. I am also the president of the Ohio Community Corrections Association (OCCA). OCCA is here today to offer proponent testimony on Senate Bill 288.

OCCA represents two types of residential community corrections programs, Halfway Houses and five Community Based Correctional Facilities. Our member agencies operate 38 facilities throughout the state. These facilities offer a range of community corrections programs including residential, day reporting, electronic and GPS monitoring, mental health and substance use treatment, work release, workforce development and other services.

Community corrections programs, such as Alvis, provide individuals who are in the process of transitioning from prison to the community with a supportive environment and services that have been proven to reduce the risk that an individual will recidivate. Recidivism decreases when returning citizens have the opportunity to step down to a halfway house and receive the services and treatment they desperately need. The most successful step-down reentry program is called Transitional Control. The Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction (ODRC) administers the Transitional Control (TC) program under the ORC 2967.26. TC Eligible individuals transfer to a halfway house for up to the last 180 days of their sentence. It should be noted that administrative rules disqualify sex offenders, offenses of violence, excessive felonious convictions and those serving mandatory sentences from participation.

In calendar year 2021, 2,042 individuals participated in Transitional Control. An additional 852 were eligible but disapproved by their county. Persons on Transitional Control are required to be employed, pay restitution, child support and any other financial obligations. In addition to working and paying taxes, the TC clients' needs are assessed and then they are required to participate in any substance abuse, mental health or anger management programming.

In contrast, inmates who are vetoed by a judge remain in prison for 120 to 180 days to complete their entire sentence, and most are directly released to their local community without a safety net of supportive reentry services. Many will be released without any supervision or accountability whatsoever. They will not be required to work, pay restitution, participate in programming, or complete community service hours.

Most importantly, the TC program works! The statewide recidivism rate is 32.7%. The University of Cincinnati evaluations of community corrections programs, demonstrated that utilizing Transitional Control results in outcomes that are twice as good as the statewide average.

In summary, utilizing TC reduces prison crowding, saves money, effectively reduces recidivism, and starts an individual on the path to becoming a law abiding, tax-paying citizen. Thank you for your time. I am happy to answer any questions.

Please direct additional questions to:

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