



June 13, 2023

Chairwoman Abrams  
House Criminal Justice Committee  
77 South High Street, 13<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Columbus, OH 43215

RE: Senate Bill 122 & House Bill 191

Chairwoman Abrams:

I write to you today to extend the Justice Action Network's support of Senate Bill 122 and House Bill 191, legislation which would codify Ohio Criminal Rule 46 governing pretrial release and detention into state law. The Justice Action Network is the nation's largest bipartisan organization working to reform the criminal justice system at the state and federal levels.

After the passage of Issue One in 2022, the Ohio Constitution was modified to require "public safety" as a consideration for setting monetary bail, and the authority of the Supreme Court of Ohio to establish the amount and conditions of bail was removed. As a result, the Supreme Court of Ohio moved to strike Rule 46 this year in its entirety. Following the Supreme Court's action, we hope the Ohio Legislature swiftly passes Senate Bill 122 and House Bill 191, which will ensure the justice system has a clear roadmap for managing pretrial detention and release so that Ohio citizens are treated fairly.

Without this legislation and absent Rule 46 in either administrative law or the Ohio Revised Code, Ohioans interacting with the judicial system will experience very different outcomes, which will potentially create constitutional issues related to due process and equal protection. Senate Bill 122 and House Bill 191 are needed to ensure that Ohio continues to have a uniform system for pretrial release and detention, and we hope that the Ohio Legislature will swiftly pass this bill.

Thank you again for leading on this important issue and sponsoring this legislation. You have the Justice Action Network's full support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lauren Krisai".

Lauren Krisai  
Deputy Director  
The Justice Action Network

CC: Speaker Jason Stephens  
Minority Leader Allison Russo  
Members, House Criminal Justice Committee