

Ohio House of Representatives
Families and Aging Committee
HB 465 - "Lauren's Law"
April 17, 2024

Chairwoman Schmidt, Vice Chair Miller, Ranking member Denson, and members of the Families and Aging Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony today.

My name is Janemarie Sowers. I am Co-chair of the Ohio Nursing Crisis Advocacy Committee, Chair of the Ohio Nursing Crisis Advocacy Committee's Paid Family Caregiver Subcommittee, and I am a parent of a severely disabled adult on Ohio Home Care Waiver.

The Ohio Nursing Crisis Advocacy Committee supports HB 465. We support family members having the option to place cameras in the room of their disabled family member who lives in an ICF. We support family members who choose home and community-based services over institutionalization receiving 90% of the funding ICF's receive. This should not be limited to the three Medicaid waivers administered by the Department of Developmental Disabilities. The components of HB 465 should be implemented in all existing waivers in Ohio.

We also encourage you to require that an outside agency investigate all Major Unusual Incidents and Unusual Incidents within the Department of Developmental Disabilities system.

Thank You,

Ohio Nursing Crisis Advocacy Committee