



OHIO COUNCIL FOR HOME CARE & HOSPICE

HB 236 Interested Party Testimony
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House Health Provider Services Committee
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Chairman Cutrona, Vice Chair Gross, Ranking Member Somani and members of the House Health Provider Services Committee, thank you for allowing me to provide written interested party testimony on HB 236 for the Ohio Council for Home Care & Hospice. My name is Lisa Von Lehmden. I am the Executive Director of the Ohio Council for Home Care & Hospice. Home Health and Hospice care includes a broad range of services that enables people to receive care in the place that they live or in the case of Hospice potentially in an inpatient setting like a nursing home or hospital when they are not able to return home. These services may be a combination of professional care such as nursing or physical therapy, personal care such as assistance with bathing or dressing, or support, like homemaker or companion services. Home and community-based services are provided in Ohio's Medicaid program through State Plan and waivers, which are administered via the Ohio Department of Medicaid, Ohio Department of Aging, and the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities., respectively.

We want to thank both sponsors, Representatives Miller and Lear for allowing us to engage in several interested party meetings concerning HB 236. Early within the process we raised concerns about a specific definition contained within Sec. 3792.05 and cross-references the definition of Hospice Care Program in Sec. 3712.01. The legislation now clarifies that Sec. 3792.05 does not apply to hospice care being provided in a home. We are appreciative of the clarification captured in the most current version of HB 236. While we cannot speak to every provision within the legislation, we certainly can empathize with the intent of legislation which aims to ensure patients have access to someone who can advocate for them and their best interests, without unnecessary limitations when they are in a congregate setting of care.

Thank you Chairman Cutrona and members of the House Health Provider Services Committee for the opportunity to provide interested party testimony concerning HB 236.