

Proponent Testimony
Senate Bill 112
April 17, 2024
The Ohio Childhood Safety Act

Chairmen Brenner Vice Chair O'Brien and Ranking Member Ingram, thank you for the Opportunity to Testify today on SB 112 The Ohio Childhood Safety Act. My name is Timothy J. Cassell and I'm here to provide proponent testimony. I previously submitted written testimony at a earlier committee hearing however I wanted to come back and address the amendment that was offered today.

Senator Rulli called for a interested party meeting on February 21st. In attendance was representatives for Ohio School Board Association, Buckeye Association of School Administrators, Ohio FOP, Ohio Association of Professional Fire Fighters, and the Ohio Attorney Generals office. I want to publicly thank all those who attended and participated. As a result of the work of the IP meeting participants the amendment offered today was drafted to address the concerns of the participants. This bill was never intended to become a rip and replace endeavor but rather take what we already have and make sure its performing as it was originally intended. NFPA 80 and NFPA 101 clearly stated that the inspections were to follow the guidelines for the date of installation however Ohio is not in control of the additions and redactions from these evolving codes. To that issue the amendment clearly layout that the inspection process will consist of the codes at the time of installation. The amendment also addresses a timeline for repairs to items that the inspector (AHJ), Authority Having Jurisdiction, deems a serious fire or life safety hazard. Understanding the timelines today with supply chain issues coupled with long waits to get qualified installers we moved the repair requirement out to 180 days, a half of year. I personally would hope that we never approach that long of a

delay but recognize there is some extra time needed in some cases.

In conclusion with the addition of this amendment this bill is made much better and deserves your consideration and passage.

I'll now be happy to answer any question you may have.

Respectfully Submitted
Timothy J. Cassell