



SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE – Proponent Testimony, House Bill 191, 6.21.23

Chair Manning, Vice Chair Reynolds, Ranking Member Hicks-Hudson, and members of the committee, thank you for holding this hearing and for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of HB 191. My name is Jeff Dillon, and I am the Ohio Legislative Director for Americans for Prosperity (AFP).

AFP believes that an effective criminal justice system protects people and preserves public safety, respects human dignity, restores victims, removes barriers to opportunity for those with criminal records, and ensures equal justice for all. HB 191 will provide continuity and clarity regarding pretrial procedures for Ohio's courts, prosecutors, and accused criminal defendants by codifying Criminal Rule 46.

AFP worked closely with several members of the General Assembly last session on pretrial justice issues related to bail. While we hope an opportunity emerges again in the future to continue those crucial discussions regarding reform, we applaud this committee for taking swift action to ensure the survival of Criminal Rule 46, which, as was discussed in committee last week, is set to be eliminated by the Ohio Supreme Court without this legislative action.

AFP would like to thank Reps. Swearingen and Seitz for taking quick action in introducing and moving this bill, which will ensure that current practices and processes are upheld and the rights of the accused in Ohio are not adversely affected.

Jeff Dillon

Ohio Legislative Director, Americans for Prosperity

Americans for Prosperity (AFP) exists to recruit, educate, and mobilize citizens in support of the policies and goals of a free society at the local, state, and federal level, helping every American live their dream – especially the least fortunate. AFP has more than 3.2 million activists across the nation, a local infrastructure that includes 36 state chapters, and has received financial support from more than 100,000 Americans in all 50 states. For more information, visit www.AmericansForProsperity.org.

