

Amanda Hoyt

Lobbyist, CEO Project

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Testimony on House Bill 647

Chair White, Vice Chair, Ranking Member Lett, and members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide opponent testimony today on HB 647. My name is Tawana Drakes and I represent the CEO Project.

This bill will hurt providers financially to have to wait for due process while not being able to operate our businesses. It will close the doors of many providers. It will leave families without care and must go through the process of finding a provider and waiting for the county to change to a new provider for the family. Meanwhile the family is at risk of losing their job due to the provider shut down. It will have a domino effect for industry as well as the State of Ohio.

I am opposed to HB 647 because it will allow providers like me to be shut down with no questions, no explanations. The bill will not in any way take into consideration the record of the provider, nor will it consider the source of where it came from. To shut someone down without due process will be devastating to myself and others who tirelessly pour into our families and communities daily. I would greatly appreciate your reconsideration of some amendments to this bill.

I would suggest that due process be done first, before you shut the provider's program down.

This would eliminate any interruption to the schedule of the program.

Thank you again for the opportunity to provide opponent testimony today. I am happy to answer any questions you may have.