Ohio House Community Revitalization Committee House Bill 58

Renee Rosenbaum Resident, The Woodrow Project May 5, 2025

Chair Click, Vice Chair Mullins, Ranking Member Brewer, members of the House Community Revitalization Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit my testimony on House Bill 58. My name is Renee Rosenbaum, a current resident with the Woodrow Project recovery housing for women. I have been involved with this recovery housing since May 2022. Since then, the Woodrow Project has provided me with crucial support to help my transition from active addiction to stable, productive, and sustainable sober living.

I came to the recovery home straight from a detox facility. I was terrified to go get help in the first place, let alone face what would come next. I entered detox without knowing where I would end up, but I knew I could not return to the environment of domestic violence, psychological and substance abuse in which I fled. With no job, no license, no financial resources, or other support, I felt hopeless.

Through step by step guidance, getting involved in support groups and outpatient treatments, the Woodrow Project supported my journey on an individual level. Within months, I was working, obtained my Ohio driver's license, purchased a used car, and was socially involved in AA and the community. I could never have made these strides without the assistance of the recovery house, which alleviated my worries of where I could safely rest my head at night. Many of the barriers that held me down were one by one eradicated. Today, I still thrive with the Woodrow Project and I am currently pursuing entrepreneurship in the agricultural field.

I am offering my testimony to express my strong opposition to House Bill 58. I am extremely grateful for the opportunities I was awarded, and I am committed to being a part of continuing this opportunities to others like me in the future. Becoming informed on this legislation, I see how this bill creates significant barriers that will hinder the access of essential resources needed for individuals in recovery from substance use disorders. I oppose this Bill because I foresee the excessive regulations will create unintended consequences from local interpretations and policies.

Please help protect our ongoing fight for long-term, sustainable recovery by including the recovery community in the development of this legislation. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Renee Marie Rosenbaum