



**Representative Kellie Deeter**  
House District 54

**Representative Brian Stewart**  
House District 12

Chair Schmidt, Ranking Member Somani, and members of the House Health Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide sponsor testimony on House Bill 440.

This legislation was brought to me by the Attorney General's office to clarify the background check process within the Ohio Board of Nursing at the request of the FBI. Importantly, House Bill 440 does not change the process, requirements, or oversight of background checks. It simply provides clarification to ensure that access to criminal records is limited strictly to the Board of Nursing, rather than a broader group of individuals when performed for licensure. This bill does not apply to background checks for employment purposes. The inclusion of the emergency clause is necessary to prevent any interruption of BCI's access to national background check databases due to the current, unclear statutory language.

I want to thank the Attorney General's office for identifying this issue and bringing it forward, as well as my joint sponsor, Representative Stewart, whose legal expertise has been invaluable in advancing this legislation. The Attorney General's office will provide further context in proponent testimony.

Thank you again for the opportunity to testify on House Bill 440. Representative Stewart and I will be happy to answer any questions.