October 22, 2025
Testimony of Paul Amiott, PA-C, MPAS, EMT-P
Before the Ohio House Health Committee

Chair Schmidt, Vice Chair Deeter, Ranking Member Somani, and distinguished members of the House Health Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of the PA Title Change House Bill 353.

My name is Paul Amiott, and I am a PA and paramedic living in Williamsburg, Ohio. My clinical experience includes emergency medicine practice across multiple states including Ohio, Indiana, Arizona, and Colorado.

I believe we should change the title from physician assistant to physician associate because it reflects the reality of how we practice. I work beside a physician, or sometimes in my primary jobs, in place of a physician with a physician on call for assistance if needed. I'm not just assisting or gathering information for the physician. I am personally managing patients myself, seeking physician expertise where appropriate.

Changing the title to "Physician Associate" enhances transparency by more accurately reflecting the education, training, and team-based role of PAs. This helps patients to better understand who is providing their care, and to give them confidence in the provider who is serving them.

This change in no way implies equivalency with physicians, nor does it alter PA scope of practice or compromise patient safety. But words matter, and the word “associate” implies a highly-trained and educated professional with critical responsibilities. It more accurately reflects the level of skill, experience, and abilities that PAs have than the term “assistant”.

Thank you for your consideration of this important issue. I urge your support of HB 353.