OCCA
OHIO COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS ASSOCIATION

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David Stillwagon, President
Lusanne Green, Executive Director

Alvis - Columbus, Dayton, Chillicothe

Behavioral Healthcare Partners of Central Ohio - Newark

Community Assessment & Treatment Services, Inc. - Cleveland

Community Corrections Association, Inc - Youngstown

Community Correctional Center, Talbert House -Lebanon

Community Restoration Centers of Stark County, Inc. - Canton

Community Transition Center - Lancaster

CROSSWAEH CBCF, Oriana House, Inc. - Tiffin

Judge Nancy R. McDonnell CBCF, Oriana House, Inc. - Cleveland

Mahoning County CBCF, Community Corrections Association, Inc. - Youngstown

Ohio Link Corrections & Treatment, Inc. - Lima & Toledo

Oriana House, Inc. - Akron, Cleveland, Marietta, Sandusky

Summit County CBCF Oriana House, Inc. - Akron

Talbert House - Cincinnati

The Salvation Army Harbor Light - Cleveland

Turtle Creek, Talbert House - Lebanon

Volunteers of America Ohio & Indiana - Cincinnati, Dayton, Mansfield, Toledo

Proponent Testimony on House Bill 296

House Judiciary Committee

September 24, 2025

Chairman Thomas, Vice Chair Swearingen, Ranking Member Synenberg, and members of the House Judiciary Committee, I am writing on behalf of the Ohio Community Corrections Association (OCCA) to offer proponent testimony in favor of House Bill 296 which seeks to delay financial sanctions for 180-days for persons released from Ohio's prisons or completion of a transitional control program. The OCCA, comprised of non-profit residential community corrections agencies, supports these efforts which will help with the feasibility of formerly incarcerated individuals securing employment before fiscal sanctions come due. Moreover, the bill does not apply to child support nor restitution to victims which will still be due upon release.

Ohio's halfway house and community-based correctional facility residents accept responsibility for their actions and endeavor to lead productive lives as they annually provide almost 290,000 hours of community service while paying over $1 million in taxes, court fines, restitution, and child support while they are in our facilities. In order to successfully complete our programs, gainful employment is required. Our Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction-licensed and Ohio Department of Behavioral Health-certified agencies provide additional supports that include behavioral health assessment and counseling, anger management and cognitive behavioral therapy.

Please reach out to us if we can be helpful to you on House Bill 296 or if you have interest in seeing one of our facilities. We would like to thank Representative Miller for her leadership on this issue, and we thank those of you on this committee for your time and attention! Questions may be directed to Lusanne Green via email at Lgreen@OCCAonline.org or Kelsey Woolard at Governmental Policy Group via voice (614) 461-9335 or email at KWoolard@GPGRHR.com

Respectfully,

David J. Stillwagon
OCCA President
Community Corrections Association, Inc.- Chief Executive Officer