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House Public Safety Committee
Written Proponent Testimony for H.R. 227
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Chair Abrams, Vice Chair Miller, Ranking Member Thomas, and members of the House Public Safety Committee:

I would like to thank you for the opportunity to provide support for H.R. 227, a resolution that would expedite the automatic transfer of missing person case information between systems.

The Ohio Domestic Violence Network (ODVN) is Ohio's federally designated domestic violence coalition, representing 76 local domestic violence organizations throughout the state. We support this resolution that will improve the automatic transfer of information in missing persons cases, which is already mandated under federal law .

Survivors of domestic violence are among those most vulnerable to go missing. Some disappear while fleeing abuse. Others are isolated or forcibly taken by an abuser. And in the most tragic cases, they are murdered and not immediately identified. In ODVN's most recent annual fatality report, released just last week, we documented **157 deaths in 108 intimate partner violence cases**. In 69% of these cases, the individuals involved had prior contact with the criminal and/or civil justice systems. As professionals assessing intersystem work, we recognize there are missed opportunities for intervention and understand the need for coordinated, trauma-informed responses. This resolution will support that vital work. Further details are available here: [FatalityInfographic2025_web.pdf](#) and here: [FatalityMap2025_web.png \(2592x2592\)](#) .

On behalf of the Ohio Domestic Violence Network and our 76 member programs, I would like to thank Representatives Cockey and Ritter for championing this resolution. H.R. 227 is a meaningful step toward creating a more coordinated, just, and compassionate response to missing persons in Ohio, connected to an improved federal system: one that reflects the needs of domestic violence survivors and honors those we have lost.

Thank you for your time and consideration.