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June 4, 2025

The Honorable Jerry Cirino, Chair
Finance Committee, Ohio Senate
1 Capitol Square
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Thank you for this opportunity to provide written testimony on Amended Substitute House Bill 96, the state operating budget. The Ohio Justice Alliance for Community Corrections (OJACC) is a coalition of stakeholders concerned with adults and youth who are involved in the criminal justice system. OJACC's membership includes judges, prosecutors, defense attorneys, commissioners, CBCFs, halfway houses, probation and parole officers, behavioral health providers and housing providers. As such, OJACC not only advocates for adequate funding to effectively maintain community corrections programs, but also for funding to ensure that those requiring additional support such as mental health medication and services and substance use services such as medication assisted treatment that will allow them to be effectively served in the community in such a way as to enhance public safety.

Many Community Based Correctional Facilities (CBCFs) serve smaller counties where resources are sorely limited, both in terms of residential corrections options and critical behavioral health services. Reduced funding in these areas may cause harm to those communities that most profoundly need it. OJACC respectfully requests that funding in the 501501-funding line for Community Residential Programs-Community Based Correctional Facilities and the 366422-funding line for Criminal Justice Services be restored to the levels originally proposed by the House.

As always, OJACC appreciates your consideration of our interests and concerns.

Thank you,

Linda Janes, President
Ohio Justice Alliance for Community Corrections

