

# HB 96 WITNESS INFORMATION FORM

Please complete the Witness Information Form before testifying:

Date: 05/12/2025

Name: Josh Thomas, Student At Meadowdale Career Technology Center, reading for Kingston Tyler

Are you representing: Yourself **Organization**

Organization (If Applicable): Dayton Public Schools

Position/Title: Student

Address: 3873 Whitestone Court

City: State: Zip: Dayton, OH 45416

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Do you wish to be added to the committee notice email distribution list? **Yes**

Business before the committee

Legislation (Bill/Resolution Number): House Bill 96

Specific Issue: Domestic Violence Funding

Are you testifying as a: **Interested Party**

Will you have a written statement, visual aids, or other material to distribute? **Yes**

(If yes, please send an electronic version of the documents, if possible, to the Chair's office prior to committee. You may also submit hard copies to the Chair's staff prior to committee.)

How much time will your testimony require? **1-2 minutes**

Please provide a brief statement on your position: **The following testimony advocates for more funding for domestic violence resources as a public health issue.**

#### **KT4: Expand VAWA and Domestic Violence Resources**

I respectfully ask the representative to address the problem of the amount of Domestic Violence cases. Each day in the U.S., 3 women are murdered by a current or former intimate partner. Domestic violence stems from a desire to gain and maintain power and control over an intimate partner. Abusive people believe they have the right to control and restrict their partner's lives. Children who are victims of abuse often do more poorly in school and relationships and carry those outcomes into society, future relationships, and the job market. Every 9 seconds in the U.S. a woman is assaulted or beaten. Every year, 1 in 3 women who is a victim of homicide is murdered by her current or former partner. An average of 24 people per minute are victims of rape, physical violence or stalking by an intimate partner in the United States. Preventing you from making your own decisions, including about working or attending school. Controlling finances in the household without discussion, including taking your money or refusing to provide money for necessary expenses.

The reason I'm doing this topic is because I have family members that have been through domestic violence and I wouldn't want anyone else going through bad things like this. You could call a women's shelter or domestic violence hotline for advice, or You need someone that supports you and also believes you. Violence puts a massive burden on national economies in health care, law enforcement and lost productivity.

Domestic violence stems from a desire to gain and maintain power and control over an intimate partner. Women may not feel comfortable talking about something so intimate the first time it is mentioned, or they may not recall incidents that took place long ago. This is why studies on violence usually result in substantial under-reporting of abuse.

The Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) creates and supports comprehensive, cost-effective responses to domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence and stalking. The law set forth federal law crimes for crossing state lines to commit intimate partner domestic violence or to violate a protection order. VAWA creates and supports comprehensive responses to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking, including providing federal resources to support coordinated community approaches. It also provides education about healthy relationships, gender equality, consent, respect, and empathy. The law provides legal assistance for survivors of domestic violence who seek protection or restraining orders.

I think this is a great request in my opinion because this is a big problem that needs to be solved. If we do nothing about domestic violence then people will keep getting hurt and abused. People will stop getting hurt and there will be less killings and people dying. Can you commit to what I'm requesting because I know you wouldn't want your mom, sister or any lady in your family getting abused