



**BECKY WILLIAMS**  
President

**AL BACON**  
Secretary-Treasurer

**KATHY MCCORMICK**  
Executive Vice President

**FRANK HORNICK**  
Executive Vice President

**KRINDA BAILEY**  
Kentucky Vice President

**PETE HANLON**  
Ohio State Vice President

**DEBBIE HAJZAK**  
Ohio Public Vice President

**CAROL FORD**  
Ohio Private Vice President

**CAROL LAFFERTY**  
West Virginia Vice President

**JUDY MALDONADO**  
RN Vice President

**SCHERHERA SHEARER**  
School District & Local  
Government Vice President

The Service Employees  
International Union  
District 1199 WV/KY/OH  
Change to Win, CLC  
[www.seiu1199.org](http://www.seiu1199.org)

November 30, 2016

Dear Chairman Blessing and Members of the House Government Accountability and Oversight Committee:

As one of Ohio's Unions proudly representing employees across eighteen different state agencies, the Service Employees International Union (SEIU) District 1199 is deeply concerned about several provisions included in Amended Substitute Senate Bill 329 and the lack of thorough consideration of the consequences this legislation could have not only on State employees but the quality and availability of services many Ohio citizens depend on.

The threat of expiration and elimination of not only state departments, but potentially thousands of living wage jobs does not bode well for the workers who have the experience and skills necessary to execute their duties in an efficient manner. This threat also puts incredible stress on workers' families who depend on a stable income.

Reasonable measures to increase efficiency and eliminate wasteful state spending are acceptable up to the point where employees are faced with unreasonable workload demands and the delivery and availability of vital state services like Medicaid, unemployment compensation benefits and workers compensation suffer. Many services and programs funded by the federal government may also be at risk considering the requirement that these funds pass through and are distributed by the appropriate state department.

We support efforts to create a state government that is adjusting to respond to its citizens and enabling Ohioans to build a better life for themselves and their families. However, if passed, we believe Am. Sub. S.B. 329 would not accomplish those goals and instead be a destabilizing force in state government and put workers and their families in jeopardy.

For these reasons, SEIU District 1199 opposes Am. Sub. S.B. 329 and urges the committee to withhold action on the bill until a more thorough examination of its ramifications can be conducted in a future legislative session.

Sincerely,

Becky Williams, President  
SEIU 1199 WV/KY/OH

