



Ohio Senate
1st District

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Senate Bill 287 Sponsor Testimony
Wednesday April 27, 2016

Chair Jones, Vice Chair Lehner, and members of the Senate Health and Human Service committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to present sponsor testimony on Senate Bill 287. This legislation would require certain state agencies to access the incidence of diabetes in Ohio and use existing data to establish plans for prevention and management of the disease.

The Diabetes Action Plan is a new way to help ensure legislators and other policymakers are strategically taking steps toward reducing the prevalence of diabetes in our state. The bill would establish a collaborative process of planning and action across certain state agencies to improve diabetes care, reduce the risk of diabetes, and control complications.

More than 1.3 million Ohioans have been diagnosed with diabetes and another 3 million are at risk for developing diabetes. The chronic disease is the seventh-leading cause of death in Ohio and the primary cause of kidney failure, nontraumatic lower limb amputations and new cases of blindness among adults across the county. Diabetes costs Ohio an estimated \$9.1 billion in direct medical expenses and another \$2.9 billion in indirect costs due to loss of productivity. At least 16 other states have already enacted legislation requiring a diabetes action plan.

With a comprehensive plan and partnership between state agencies, Ohio will be a leader in reducing the rate of diabetes. The plan and report will offer options and opportunities that legislators and policymakers can utilize today to ensure the future health of Ohio is not dictated by diabetes.

Thank you again for the opportunity to provide testimony on Senate Bill 287. I would be happy to answer any questions from the committee at this time.