

Substitute HB 49
Testimony of Dianne Farabi
Executive Director of the Ohio Orthotics and Prosthetics Association
June 14, 2017

Good morning Chairman Oelslager, Vice-Chair Manning, Ranking Member Skindell, and Members of the Senate Finance Committee. My name is Dianne Farabi, Executive Director of the Ohio Orthotics and Prosthetics Association.

I regret that I am not able to testify in person due to scheduled foot surgery.

We would like to commend and thank this distinguished body of Senators for restoring licensure for Orthotic, Prosthetic and Pedorthic (O, P & P) practitioners in the latest version of Sub HB49. This has occurred through the formation of a new **State Physical Health Services Board**.

We join with the patients who receive OP&P services and care, their physicians, families, and other stakeholders who understand the significance of licensure, to support its restoration.

OP & P represents a small but significant segment of health care, not generally regarded or understood until an individual, family member, colleague, or friend loses mobility due to limb loss, disease or trauma. With their very specialized advanced education and training, O P & P practitioners work with physicians and other members of a physical rehabilitation team to restore mobility to ultimately save lives and money.

*A recent analysis of Medicare data shows timely O&P patient care saves Medicare \$231 million annually compared with costs associated with same diagnosis patients who did not receive O&P services and developed co-morbidities resulting in higher Medicare costs. More details at <http://mobilitysaves.org/>
(Source: American Orthotics and Prosthetics Association)*

Thank you again for your thoughtful consideration and your attention. Please contact us if there should be questions or concerns regarding the delivery of Orthotic, Prosthetic, and Pedorthic health care services in Ohio.

Respectfully,
Dianne Farabi

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