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October 19, 2021

The Honorable Sara P. Carruthers, Chair
Behavioral Health and Recover Supports Committee
Ohio House of Representatives
77 S. High Street, 13th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215

Re: HB 328 Governor's Office of Drug Policy

Dear Chair Carruthers:

On behalf of the Ohio Township Association (OTA), I am writing to express our support for House Bill 328, which would create the Governor's Office of Drug Policy.

Unfortunately, the opioid epidemic is an issue that's touched every corner of our state and impacted many aspects of our communities and the lives of people that live in them. House Bill 328 is a way to address this growing crisis. While the opioid epidemic has been recently overshadowed by the COVID-19 pandemic, it's certainly not gone.

To better manage the epidemic, the Governor's Office of Drug Policy would be charged with coordinating efforts between state agencies and local governments to share information and best practices amongst all involved. This will facilitate drug treatment and prevention efforts across this state and ensure state and local resources are used efficiently.

Townships regularly struggle with resources to provide essential services to residents – the opioid epidemic is no exception. House Bill 328 would be another tool for local governments in combatting this crisis, pulling resources with state agencies to provide the most effective forms of drug treatment and prevention.

The OTA supports the concepts in House Bill 328, as it supported House Bill 10 last General Assembly, and encourages your favorable consideration. Should you have any questions or concerns about our position, please do not hesitate to contact me at 614-863-0045.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Marisa Myers'.

Marisa Myers
Director of Governmental Affairs