

**Testimony in Support of HB3 To address making changes to civil and criminal law regarding domestic violence, address State Highway Patrol arrest authority, name the act Aisha's Law, and to make an appropriation Sponsors: Representative Boyd and Representative Carruthers**

Chairman LaRe, Vice Chair Swearingen, Ranking Member Leland, and members of the Criminal Justice Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of House Bill 3, legislation that would amend sections 109.744, 109.803, 2903.01, 2919.25, 2919.27, 2929.12, 2929.13, 2929.14, 2929.22, 2935.03, 2935.032, 2937.23 and 3113.31; to amend, for the purpose of adopting a new section number as indicated in parentheses, section 2935.033 (2935.034); and to enact new section 2935.033 and section 2919.261 of the Revised Code to make changes to civil and criminal law regarding domestic violence, to address State Highway Patrol arrest authority, to name the act Aisha's Law, and to make an appropriation.

I have been a victim advocate for close to 10 years. I have spent my career assisting victims through the criminal justice system and helping them overcome terrible trauma. Domestic violence victims sometimes are the most challenging. For a great number of victims of domestic violence, it can take multiple (average of 7) times before they finally leave their abuser. That can be due to multiple factors. It is heart breaking to see the same names come through our office time and time again. The hardest thing to see is that the abuse escalates. Victims who have been strangled are more likely to end up being murdered by their abuser and since the likelihood of them going back is high, we need to do as much as we can to help not only protect them, but keep them alive.

We need stronger laws against domestic violence. Starting with HB3, this will give law enforcement departments and prosecutor's a better chance at helping protect domestic violence victims. It will help advocates better serve victim's and get them the help they may not know they need. Most importantly, it will help save lives.

Thank you for taking the time to consider moving this bill forward.

Respectfully,  
Alyse Ziga  
Victim Advocate, RAAS