

51st House District

Portions of Butler County, including Hamilton and Fairfield, Ross Township and portions of Fairfield, Hanover and St. Clair townships

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Sara P. Carruthers
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Committees

-Behavioral Health & Recovery Supports (Chair)-
-Finance-
-Families, Aging & Human Services-

Commissions/Councils/Boards

-Early Childhood Advisory Council-
-Ohio Arts Council-

House Bill 409 Sponsor Testimony **House Families, Aging, and Human Services Committee** **November 18, 2021**

Chairwoman Manchester, Vice Chairman Cutrona, Ranking Member Liston, and members of the House Families, Aging, and Human Services Committee, thank you for the opportunity to present House Bill 409. I am happy to join with my joint sponsor, Representative Boyd, on this bill.

This bill would require Ohio long-term facilities and hospitals to set up patient protection advisory boards. The advisory boards would be selected by each long-term facility and hospital. Membership to advisory board would be:

- Three to Five people with lived experiences as residents or patients or as family members of residents or patients;
- One to three individuals with experience advocating on behalf of residents or patients, which may include individuals employed by the facility or hospital, to investigate or resolve complaints regarding resident or patient care and treatment;
- Two to four professionals with experience providing health care or personal care services directly to residents or patients.

In addition to the advisory board House Bill 409 will also achieve the following:

- In certain circumstances, peace officers will be required to complete trauma informed care training and any other patient safety-best practices training available.
- Hospitals and long-term care facilities will be required to establish updated policies for a tiered response (code) system that is based on the patient's medical condition and age.
- All hospitals and long-term care facilities shall expand access to Ombudsman and/or patient grievance services to full time, weekends and holidays, in order to make, accept, and file grievances from the petitioner or petitioner's family member when the incident occurs; as well as ensure that the grievance process is user friendly, and that patients and their families are aware of the process.

Chairwoman Manchester and committee members, thank you for your time on this important issue and we would be happy to answer any questions.