



Greetings,

Chairman Bacon, Vice Chair Dolan, Ranking Member Thomas, and members of the Senate Judiciary Committee. Thank you for allowing me to submit written testimony in support of House Bill 497.

My name is Nedra Ward. I am a Detective with The Cincinnati Police Department where I have been employed 17 years. My primary job with the department is to investigate Domestic Violence Offenses. I follow up with the victims/survivors in my cases to discuss safety plans that will help in moving forward to leave an abusive relationship. I've had a few cases where the victims/survivors were threatened by the abuser saying that, "if they left the relationship private sexual images of the victim/survivor would be posted on the internet." Unfortunately this type of threat has caused victims/survivors to remain in abusive relationships.

On April 27, 2018, a young lady filed a report with the Cincinnati Police claiming a guy she was involved with made a video recording of them having sexual intercourse without her knowledge and posted the video online to PORN HUB. A friend informed her that the video was on the site. She was extremely embarrassed and even worse this guy would not be held accountable for his actions due to Ohio not having a Revenge Porn Law.

House Bill 497 is way overdue and I pray it becomes Law. This Bill will help take power away from Domestic Violence offenders and stop others from sharing personal images without permission. There needs to be consequences for people who humiliate individuals in this manner.

Chairman Bacon, Vice Chair Dolan, Ranking Member Thomas, and members of the Senate Judiciary Committee. Thank you for your consideration and taking the time to hear my testimony. I respectfully ask for your support in passing House Bill 497.

Respectfully,

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