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November 26, 2018

The Honorable Kevin Bacon Chair, Senate Judiciary Committee Ohio Senate Statehouse Columbus, OH 43215

Subject: <u>HB 7 – medical negligence</u>

Dear Chairman Bacon, Vice Chair Dolan, Ranking Member Thomas, and members,

The Ohio Association for Justice, the statewide bar association for trial attorneys, is pleased to inform you that our policy position on HB 7 is neutral on the bill in its current form. While we question the need for legislation, in our judgement the amended bill will not unduly deprive Ohioans injured by medical negligence from exercising their 7th Amendment rights, and therefore we do not oppose the legislation.

We want to thank Rep. Cupp, who as the sponsor of this bill invested considerable time and energy to learn about its potential impact on medical negligence claims. We sincerely appreciate the opportunity to work with him and are grateful for his diligence and attention to detail.

Mr. Chairman, if you or members of your committee have questions about specific provisions of the legislation, please let me know as I would be pleased to supply answers from some of Ohio's leading patient advocates.

Respectfully submitted,

John Van Doorn