



Ohio House Behavioral Health and Recovery Supports Committee

Proponent Testimony on Sub. HB 523

Steve Wilson

Member

Jefferson County Prevention and Recovery Board

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Chairwoman Carruthers, Vice-Chair Pavliga, and members of the House Behavioral Health and Recovery Supports Committee, thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony in support of Sub HB 523. My name is Steve Wilson, and I am a volunteer member of the Jefferson County Prevention and Recovery Board and also a person in recovery from addiction.

I have been a member and former chairman of the Jefferson County Prevention and Recovery Board for a combined 25 years. I have been in long-term recovery from addiction for 36 years. As a person in recovery, I feel that it is very important to have representation from the community that the Board serves. The perspective that anyone in recovery brings to board business is essential to the impact that the Board makes. This bill strengthens the voice and message of those in recovery by ensuring their continued representation on the County boards. That voice and message is more important than ever; We do recover! We need that opportunity for our voice to be heard and this bill will protect it.

Madam Chairwoman and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony today. Should you have any questions, I would be happy to answer them.