The Supreme Court of Ohio

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CHIEF JUSTICE MAUREEN O'CONNOR

JUSTICES SHARON L. KENNEDY PATRICK F. FISCHER R. PATRICK DEWINE MICHAEL P. DONNELLY MELODY J. STEWART JENNIFER BRUNNER

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February 22, 2021

The Honorable Brett Hillyer Chair, House Civil Justice Committee Ohio House of Representatives Columbus, OH 43215

Dear Chairman Hillyer, Vice Chair Grendell, and Ranking Member Galonski:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on House Bill 7. The Supreme Court of Ohio is committed to helping local courts and attorneys administer justice in an effective and efficient manner. This bill – a product of widespread collaboration between the bar and the bench – will help accomplish just that.

House Bill 7 seeks to improve many parts of Ohio's probate and guardianship laws. These laws have a direct effect on Ohio families after losing a loved one and on some of Ohio's most vulnerable citizens. The improvements in this bill come from the experiences of members of the Ohio State Bar Association and the Ohio Judicial Conference. Ohio attorneys and judges are tasked with helping families during these struggles, and their commitment to improving this area of law is more than commendable.

Thank you again for the opportunity to comment, and I hope this letter is of some assistance. If there is any other information I can provide, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

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Jess Mosser, Esq. Legislative Counsel