

March 4, 2021

Chairwoman Susan Manchester House Families, Aging, and Human Services Committee The Ohio House of Representatives

Chairwoman Manchester, Vice Chair Cutrona, Ranking Member Liston, and members of the House Families, Aging, and Human Services Committee:

I am writing in support of House Bill 92, which would require public children services agencies to report child abuse or neglect in military families to the appropriate military authorities. House Bill 92 eliminates information silos and promotes collaboration between public children services agency and the armed forces.

I am Dr. Megan Letson and I am Program Director for the Child Abuse Pediatrics Fellowship at Nationwide Children's Hospital, Division Chief of Child and Family Advocacy and Medical Director at The Center for Family Safety and Healing.

The Center for Family Safety and Healing fully addresses all aspects of family violence, including child abuse and neglect, teen dating abuse, domestic violence and elder abuse, thanks to an impressive combination of public and private resources.

We use a multidisciplinary team approach which includes:

- A one-stop, coordinated response to family violence for individuals and families through partnerships with law enforcement, child protective services, prosecution and a wide range of community resources
- An expanded forum for education, advocacy and ongoing research

HB 92 aligns with our mission to end the cycle of family violence and restore hope to families.

Sincerely,

Megan Letson, MD The Center for Family Safety and Healing Nationwide Children's Hospital