

November 29, 2022

Chairman Nathan Manning Ohio Senate Judiciary Committee 1 Capitol Square Columbus, OH 43215

Dear Chairman Manning:

On behalf of the collective interests of Ohio's 228 credit unions and their 3.1 million members, the Ohio Credit Union League (OCUL) is writing to express our support for House Bill 116. Known as the Ohio Computer Crimes Act, this legislation would provide critical updates to the Ohio Revised Code to solve prosecutorial blind spots regarding cybercrimes. The League also supports streamlining the bill to provide appropriate penalties for an offense committed against specific individuals.

Few issues give credit unions more angst than a potential cyber-attack exposing and compromising account information. As community-based financial institutions, credit unions possess sensitive consumer information and continuously monitor and mitigate attempts to exploit that data. This legislation will assist credit unions and other businesses in protecting consumer information by modernizing the Ohio Revised Code to disincentivize emerging cybercrimes in a digital economy.

Most importantly, HB 116 provides law enforcement and prosecutors with the necessary tools to prevent and penalize cybercrimes. While the perpetrator of a cyber attack is not always identifiable in every instance, these individuals should be held accountable when possible.

OCUL supports HB 116 and respectfully requests the committee favorably report the bill. Thank you for your consideration, and please reach out to us should we be of any assistance.

Sincerely,

Jared Weiser

Director, Legislative Affairs