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Teresa Lampl, LISW-S, CEO House Behavioral Health Committee Written-Only Testimony in Support of HB 352 April 23, 2024

Chair Pavliga, Vice Chair White, Ranking Member Brewer and members of the House Behavioral Health Committee thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony in support of HB 352, legislation that would establish the Adverse Childhood Experiences Study Commission.

My name is Teresa Lampl and I am the CEO of the Ohio Council of Behavioral Health and Family Services Providers – a statewide trade and advocacy organization that represents over 170 private businesses that provide prevention, treatment, crisis, and recovery services. Our membership organizations focus on providing patient-centered and trauma-informed services to children and youth, adults, and families in all communities throughout Ohio.

The Ohio Council applauds the sponsors of this important legislation – Representatives Baker and Carruthers – for their leadership, keen insight into a challenging policy issue, and collaborate nature in which they have developed this legislation and related amendments.

Indeed, as the sponsors have explained, the ACEs Study Commission would serve as a venue to hear and learn from experts and individuals with lived experiences so that legislative strategies and solutions could be discussed, developed, and advanced. This action-oriented study commission has the potential to offer real solutions to real problems faced by many families and communities in Ohio.

Further, the Ohio Council is very pleased to support a narrowly tailored amendment expanding the study commission to include representatives from a few key stakeholders, including the Ohio Council. We appreciate the sponsors' efforts and collaborative nature with respect to the make-up of the study commission.

Again, thank you to Chair Pavliga and the committee for the opportunity to offer the Ohio Council's perspective and support for HB 352. If the committee has any questions or would like to discuss this matter in greater detail, please contact Teresa Lampl at <u>lampl@theohiocouncil.org</u>.