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Written Proponent Testimony – House Bill 106 Ohio Poverty Law Center House Commerce and Labor Committee

Chair Johnson, Vice Chair Manchester, Ranking Member McNally, and members of the House Commerce and Labor Committee, my name is Danielle DeLeon Spires, and I am a policy advocate at the Ohio Poverty Law Center. The Ohio Poverty Law Center advocates for evidence-based policies that protect and expand the rights of low-income Ohioans. We are a non-profit law firm working closely with Ohio's legal aid community, serving Ohioans who are living, working, and raising their families in poverty. Thank you for the opportunity to provide written proponent testimony on House Bill 106 to enact the Pay Stub Protection Act requiring employers to provide earnings and deductions statements to each of the employer's employees.

House Bill 106 requires an employer to provide each employee with a statement or access to a statement of earnings and deductions for the pay period, which would provide much-needed reassurance to working Ohioans. Not only would these statements be used to ensure accurate wages for hours worked, individuals would have the documentation that they need for many additional economic needs.

Pay statements are often needed to verify income in numerous situations, such as renting an apartment or purchasing a house, as well as credit and loan applications and verifying eligibility for benefits and other safety net programs. By creating an opportunity for Ohioans to have their pay statements readily available, House Bill 106 will significantly reduce challenges faced when individuals are navigating these complex situations. There will be fewer barriers to overcome and substantial reductions in the time spent by agencies and individuals in managing these programs.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written proponent testimony on House Bill 106 and we appreciate your consideration of this opportunity to advocate for this much-needed update that will help Ohioans in overcoming barriers in their daily lives.

Sincerely,

Danielle DeLeon Spires



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