

Chairwoman Abrams, Vice Chair Williams, Ranking Member Brown, and Members of the Ohio House Criminal Justice Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify as a proponent of HB 245, the Adult Cabaret Act.

My name is Pamelea Long. I am from Lima, Ohio. I am a concerned grandmother.

I believe this bill needs to be enacted at the earliest opportunity to protect children's innocence. My 10-year-old grandson attended the Christmas Parade in Bellefontaine, Ohio and was given promotional material for a drag show in his Christmas candy. The performance on this particular float was sexually provocative and inappropriate for children.

Ohio's children should be protected from obscene performances in public spaces. When it comes to adult performances and adult imagery, those expressions need to be in an adult establishment where minors are not present. Protecting children from exploitation and the robbing of their innocence is a matter of utmost importance.

Thank you for your service to the citizens of Ohio and your time and consideration today of my testimony today in support of HB 245.