

February 21, 2024

Dear 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 House Bill 245, the Adult Cabaret Act.

My name is Donna J. Parsley, and I am a resident of Ashville, Ohio. I have been married for 41 years, I am a mother to three adult daughters, my husband I and I have five grandchildren aged 17, 13, 11, 10, and 8. I work as an operations manager for an aviation finance company. And in the past have volunteered for two anti-human trafficking organizations.

I support House Bill 245 and feel it should be enacted at the earliest opportunity to protect our children's innocence, hearts, and minds. This subject is important because recently one of my grandchildren attended an Adult Cabaret Act. The child was taken to the show by a family member who deems this sort of entertainment as child appropriate. This type of entertainment relies on exaggerated female stereotypes, sexuality, and inappropriate humor. None of this is suitable for anyone under the age of eighteen. Since the child attended the event, it has caused strife and discord within our family. If adults want to attend these shows that is their right. Children should not be forced to attend. Attending a show of this nature should be a person's decision when they reach adulthood.

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 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 House Bill 245.



Donna J. Parsley

Ashville, Ohio