

5/13/2024

**To:** Ohio House Finance Committee

**From:** Jan Kreiner, Ph.D. Assistant Professor of Special Education

Wilmington College, Wilmington, Ohio

**RE:** In Support of **HB434** - Funding of the Traumatic Brain Injury Treatment Accelerator Program (TBITXL)

I am writing to express my support for the funding of the Traumatic Brain Injury Treatment Accelerator Program (TBITXL), and legislation to improve the lives of Ohioans living with traumatic brain injuries (TBI) and their caregivers. I am currently an Assistant Professor of Special Education at Wilmington College in Wilmington Ohio. I have a long history of advocating for funding, services, and programs for survivors of TBI - my husband acquired a TBI when he was injured in a motorcycle accident in 1982, and spent his next 29 years with the physical, emotional, language, and cognitive sequelae of TBI. We were painfully aware of the lack of funding and services for survivors of TBI when he and I developed a TBI Clubhouse in Portage County, Ohio in 2007, and then had to close our doors 3 years later due to lack of funding for TBI. Sadly, support for survivors of TBI and their families/caregivers has not improved.

According to the NIH, 1 out of 4 people will sustain a TBI in their lifetime. By funding the TBITXL program you could benefit the lives of numerous Ohioans with TBI, provide relief to survivors and their families, and be on the forefront of TBI drug development nationally.

I strongly urge you to adopt this bill into law and help a long-underserved population of Ohioans, who have been underserved for way too long.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony for the House Bill addressing the Traumatic Brain Injury Treatment Accelerator Program (TBITXL). If I can be of further assistance, or provide more information, please feel free to contact me at [Janice.kreiner@wilmington.edu](mailto:Janice.kreiner@wilmington.edu) or cell: 330-554-4197.

**Jan Kreiner, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Special Education**

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