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Written Proponent Testimony – House Bill 106
Ohio Poverty Law Center
Senate Small Business and Economic Opportunity Committee

Chair Lang, Vice Chair Wilkin, Ranking Member Sykes, and members of the Senate Small Business and Economic Opportunity 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 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. Workers need a paystub to ensure that they are receiving fair and accurate wages from their employers, by accident or intent. When an employer must give workers a paystub, they are able to spot inaccuracies quickly.

Not only would these statements be used to ensure accurate wages for hours worked, but individuals would also have the documentation required for many additional economic needs. When a worker lacks proof of income, securing everything from a car loan to an apartment may be off the table. Meanwhile, safety net programs exclude workers who can't prove they are working.

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,
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