



*Stronger Counties. Stronger Ohio.*

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### **Senate Government and Oversight Reform Committee**

Senate Bill 17 – Interested Party  
Rachel Massoud Reedy, Policy Analyst

May 6, 2021

Chair Roegner, Vice Chair McColley, Ranking Member Craig, and members of the Senate Government Oversight and Reform Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide written interested party testimony on Senate Bill 17.

County job and family service agencies (CDJFSs) operate under the boards of county commissioners in Ohio. As you know, among many other programs, CDJFSs are responsible for the administration of cash assistance, SNAP/food assistance, and Medicaid (including long-term care, children's health insurance and services to aged, blind and disabled). These programs are supervised by the state, but the local CDJFSs carry out the administrative work.

The agencies sustained a large cut to administrative resources in 2010 that is still \$48 million from being full restored, while caseloads have increased 75%. Senate Bill 17 includes several new mandates that, if implemented as written, will significantly increase the administrative work required of CDJFSs. CCAO shares the concern of the Ohio Job and Family Service Directors Association that additional mandates without additional funding will put significant strain on the system and impact the ability of the agencies to best serve Ohioans. Agencies may struggle to be timely with determinations and redeterminations, maintain accuracy, and detect and prevent fraud.

CCAO welcomes the opportunity to work with the bill sponsor and committee to address these concerns. We appreciate the opportunity to submit testimony.



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