



STRONGER COUNTIES. STRONGER OHIO.

209 East State Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215-4309

Phone: 614-221-5627 • Fax: 614-221-6986

Toll Free: 888-757-1904 • www.ccao.org

Cheryl Subler, Executive Director

Senate Community Revitalization Committee
Senate Bill 105 – Proponent Testimony
Rachel Reedy, Outreach & Member Engagement Manager

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Chairman Johnson, Vice Chair Hoagland, Ranking Member Sykes, and members of the Senate Community Revitalization Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide written proponent testimony on Senate Bill 105.

Senate Bill 105 makes several changes to the law governing local mental health, addiction, and recovery boards and provides greater flexibility to locals in determining structures and processes that fit their community and ensure the best service delivery possible for citizens.

Senate Bill 105 allows the board of county commissioners in a district to determine the size of its local mental health, addiction, and recovery board. In a joint-county district, this decision would be made collectively by the boards of commissioners. Commissioners would have the option to change the board size to 18, 15, 14, 12, or 9 members. If a board of county commissioners wishes to keep its board at its current size of 18 or 14, it may do so without any notification. This flexibility will afford boards of county commissioners the opportunity to select a board size that best fits their community.

Additionally, Senate Bill 105 would allow boards of county commissioners to appoint two-thirds of the local board members, with the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (OMHAS) appointing the other one-third. CCAO supports this local input into the board member selection process. Senate Bill 105 also ensures that people with lived experience and their family members will be represented on the boards.

The bill outlines a formal process for a county to withdrawal from a joint-county district. Having clear instructions for boards of commissioners to follow with respect to plans and levy authority will help both the locals and the state navigate the process.

Senate Bill 105 also requires OMHAS to notify local boards when a new provider seeks certification, when a provider is being re-certified, and if a provider is under investigation. The local board then has the opportunity to provide any information that would be beneficial to the department when making a determination on certification or investigation. Local boards are most in touch with the providers in their service area, as well as with problems and gaps that may need to be addressed. This information could certainly be beneficial to OMHAS in its processes, and CCAO supports this opportunity for local input.

CCAO supports this legislation and the flexibility it offers boards of county commissioners to meet the needs of their local mental health, addiction, and recovery districts. CCAO thanks Chairman Johnson



and Ranking Member Sykes for introducing this legislation and respectfully asks the committee to favorably report Senate Bill 105.