



Mayor Mark Mallory

City of Cincinnati

801 Plum Street, Room 150, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

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Mayor Mallory Withdraws Support for His Own Bill Amendments ruin Mallory's Crime Victims Support Bill

Cincinnati – Mayor Mark Mallory sent a letter today to Ohio Senate President Bill Harris asking him to remove the Mayor's name as the Sponsor of Senate Bill 117. This morning, the House Judiciary Committee added several unrelated amendments to the Mayor's bill, also known as Trina's Law. The Mayor does not support the amendments, many of which would have a negative impact on the City of Cincinnati.

"I find it personally disappointing that they would use my bill to pass legislation that I do not support," Mayor Mallory said. "This is not the way I operated in the Legislature. I built a record of working collaboratively, across party lines, and now they are going to pull this stunt. I am extremely disappointed that I have to oppose my own bill."

Trina's Law was designed to help victims of violent crime. The bill was inspired by the story of University of Cincinnati Law Student Trina Hackett. Ms. Hackett was the victim of a violent gunshot attack. Senate Bill 117 allows criminal convictions to be used in civil court as evidence that the convicted individual committed the crime. This bill will bring relief to victims of crime throughout the state who are subjected to the pain of having to relive an attack in civil court. Forty-one other states and the federal government already have a similar law.

The House Judiciary Committee targeted Senate Bill 117 to add these amendments because it had already passed the full Senate. One amendment that was added would protect the manufacturers of poisonous lead paint from civil lawsuits to get them to help with the clean up of this deadly paint. Some cities have also raised concerns that this legislation would block local health departments from using public nuisance laws to order the remediation of lead paint.

The use of poisonous lead based paint in older buildings has created a public health crisis that many Ohio cities are struggling to adequately address. Lead paint exposure poses a significant risk to children and leads to the increased likelihood of various future developmental problems. It is extraordinarily costly to remove lead paint from all of the effected buildings and homes. Currently, that cost is being borne exclusively by homeowners, building owners, and municipal taxpayers.

The Mayor is encouraging the Senate to wait until next year to address the lead paint issue in a separate bill when there is more time for interested parties to express their concerns.

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