

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
MICHIGAN**



June 3, 2024

Michigan House Committee on Judiciary
Michigan House of Representatives
Michigan State Capitol
Lansing, MI

RE: House Bill 5724 - Judicial Protection Act

Dear Chair Kelly Breen and Members of the House Committee on Judiciary:

We write in support of House Bill 5724, the Judicial Protection Act. As you are aware, in December of 2022, Congress passed the Daniel Anderl Judicial Security and Privacy Act. The Daniel Anderl Act was the first step taken federally in protecting the safety and privacy of judges. Protecting judges' personally identifiable information, allowing judges to redact personal information on internet sites, and preventing publication of personal information by others are small measures in trying to prevent attacks on judges and their families. These threats and attacks have grown exponentially in recent years. Passage of the federal bill, and hopefully a similar law in Michigan, will aid in preventing another tragic incident like the one that occurred in July 2020 to Judge Esther Salas' family where her son, Daniel Anderl, was fatally shot and her husband, Mark Anderl, was critically wounded. The attacker was a disgruntled litigant who found her personal information, including her home address, on the internet.

The House Bill that you are considering is the first step in Michigan to give judges in this state similar protections. Implementation of the federal Daniel Anderl Judicial Security and Privacy Act at the state level and extending those security protections in the federal law to Michigan state court judges is a necessary step in ensuring all judges in this state can continue working without fear for their personal safety or the safety of their immediate family members.

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For the security and safety of our judicial branch, we strongly encourage passage of House Bill 5724. Thank you for your time and attention to this very important bill.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sean Cox". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped "S" and a distinct "C" at the end.

Chief Judge Sean F. Cox
Eastern District of Michigan

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Hala Jarbou". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped "H" and a distinct "J" at the end.

Chief Judge Hala Y. Jarbou
Western District of Michigan