



Proponent Testimony: House Bill 421  
House Health and Aging Committee  
February 10, 2016

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Chairwoman Gonzales, Vice-chair Huffman and Ranking Member Antonio, thank you for allowing me the opportunity to provide written proponent testimony on House Bill 421 which, when enacted, will grant appropriately trained pharmacists the ability to administer certain injectable prescribed drugs.

This bill is for specific injectable medications, including certain opioid antagonists, antipsychotics, and designated prenatal treatments for pregnant women at high risk of complications. Pharmacists are trained to understand how these medications work and what potential side effects might arise as result of these medications. Pharmacists are also trained on what to do to treat these possible side effects.

Twenty-three other states permit pharmacists to administer properly prescribed injectable drugs to patients. As an Ohio pharmacist, I want to join my colleagues in these 23 other states with the ability to provide this needed service to our patients.

As a pharmacist, with locations in Akron and Cuyahoga Falls, we at Klein's have been working diligently in our communities with patients in our community suffering with moderate to severe mental illness. Providing the best care possible to this patient population is a personal passion. I strongly believe that House Bill 421 will provide improved access to an already at-risk patient population. Many of our patients struggle with transportation issues; I can only imagine the struggles individuals in more rural areas deal with. I also strongly believe that House Bill 421 better utilizes a tremendously trained, but underutilized healthcare provider in our communities – pharmacists. Providing appropriate access to care, at the right time, would benefit many Ohioans in our communities.

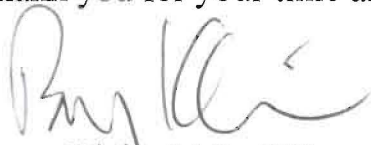


As a pharmacist, I believe we are appropriately trained and extremely capable of providing this service to members in our communities. I feel this legislation is necessary and will benefit many Ohioans.

Again, thank you to the committee for the opportunity to provide written proponent testimony on House Bill 421.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions at 330-926-5940 or via email.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Barry Klein', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Barry Klein, M.S., RPh.