

May 14, 2018

Ohio House of Representatives 77 S.

High St. Columbus, OH 43215

Re: House Bill Ohio HB 85 Proponent Testimony

Dear Chairperson Kristina Roegner, Vice Chair John Becker and members of the House Federalism & Interstate Relations Committee,

The Healthcare Compact, House Bill 85, could be a rare opportunity for the Ohio Legislature provide an exit ramp for the very unpopular Affordable Healthcare Act.

The people of Ohio gathered signatures and placed a healthcare freedom bill on the ballot. Passing in all 88 Counties with a huge margin, the healthcare freedom act was a testament of what Ohioans wanted from State Government. This enormous effort was done to free all Ohioans from the Federal Government power grab on our most private of rights, healthcare freedom.

I believe there is a moral imperative for you and the State Government Committee to move House Bill 85 forward and to promote it in the Legislature with enthusiasm. Medicaid Expansion has been shown to be largely responsible for fueling the deadly Opioid crisis in Ohio and elsewhere. This is an opportunity for this committee to restore the trust in State government that all Ohioans crave.

Please take charge of your responsibility by stopping the Federal power grab and seize control of the largest segment the Ohio State budget in a meaningful way. The Healthcare Compact offers Ohio the ability to protect itself from the certain financial disaster in the coming years caused by too much federal control of our healthcare.

Other States are signing on the Healthcare Compact and we urge you to do the right thing and build the bridge back to individual and personal healthcare. The Affordable Care Act (ACA) has proven to be an unmitigated failure and is totally unsustainable. Now is the time to position Ohio to withstand the coming ACA storm that threatens our budget and everyone who depends on it.

In closing I ask that you listen to our cries for leadership and local control of our healthcare system. Please be bold and act now for all Ohioans. Pass House Bill 85.

Respectfully,

Bob Connors

Executive Director

We The People Ohio Valley

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