



**Representative Emilia Strong Sykes**  
**34<sup>th</sup> Ohio House District**

Chairman Brinkman, Vice-Chairman Henne, Ranking Member Bocchieri and members of the House Insurance Committee, thank you for the opportunity to present sponsor testimony on House Concurrent Resolution 5.

HCR 5, urges the President of the United States and Congress to preserve the Affordable Care Act. The stability of healthcare in Ohio is too important to its citizens to shut down a proven accessible way to get healthcare.

In my 2017 survey of the 34<sup>th</sup> House District, I asked my constituents where they would like to see increased investment from the state, 64% of the survey participants answered, healthcare for all.

According to the Henry J. Keiser Family Foundation, 1 in 5 uninsured adults in 2016 went without needed medical care due to the cost. They also note that the uninsured are less likely to receive preventative care and services for major health conditions or chronic illnesses. A journal entitled Healthcare Disparities in the Post-Affordable Care Act Era

**Committees:**

Finance Committee  
Finance Subcommittee on Health & Human Services  
Health  
Rules and Reference  
Ways & Means  
Joint Medicaid Oversight Committee

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made public by the American Public Health Association states that, “estimates from the Congressional Budget Office suggest that the ACA will expand health insurance to an additional 26 million people by 2024<sup>i</sup>.”

The Affordable Care Act helps keep insurance rates down, improves the overall health of the American people, and reduces the gap of socioeconomic health disparities among minorities. Although, it is not heavily in the news as it once was, the facts are still the same, people need healthcare. It is important Ohioans and as legislators we should support that.

Thank you again for this opportunity to testify on House Concurrent Resolution 5. I will be happy to take questions.

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<sup>i</sup> Adepoju, O. E., Preston, M. A., & Gonzales, G. (2015). Health Care Disparities in the Post-Affordable Care Act Era. *American Journal of Public Health*, 105(Suppl 5), S665–S667. <http://doi.org/10.2105/AJPH.2015.302611>