

Chair Hambley, Vice Chair Patton, Ranking Minority Member Brown, and the members of the House Civil Justice Committee, my name is Eleni Shipp and I am submitting this testimony in support of House Bill 369, the Ohio Fairness Act.

I have friends and family who are members of the LGBTQ community and it is not right for them to suffer discrimination in this great country. I just can't believe that in 2020, discrimination is still allowed in so many states, including Ohio, where I was born and have now moved to live.

I have also owned a small marketing consulting business for over 30 years and I have seen how leveraging a diverse community delivers better bottom-line results. If we want to advance Ohio's economy, we need to make sure that all talents are leveraged. If we allow discrimination, we run the risk of stunting our growth.

I urge you to pass House Bill 369, the Ohio Fairness Act.

Thank you for your time and consideration.