

To Chairman Wiggam, Vice Chair Stephens, Ranking Member Kelly
and Honorable Members of the Ohio House State and Local Government
Committee

Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of HB 624. As an Ohioan, I am very concerned over reporting of the data for covid19 infections in Ohio. It's been incomplete and insufficient. There has been very little transparency, accountability or consistency in what information has been shared by the Ohio Department of Health during this pandemic. There has been no public reporting of the patients treated and released from the hospital or the number of patients who have not required medical care. The number of cases and deaths outside of the nursing homes and prisons has not been reported, either. The recovery rate for covid19 infections has never been shared. All of the data should be reported publicly in order for Ohioans to make their own informed choices. The data that is being disclosed publicly is only the data that serves to increase fear, especially fear of each. HB 624 will assist Ohioans in receiving all the data, good and bad, in order to empower Ohioans to make informed decisions for themselves, their families, and their neighbors as well.

I strongly support HB 624 and urge you to vote "yes".