

TESTIMONY BEFORE THE OHIO HOUSE HEALTH COMMITTEE
IN SUPPORT OF HB 273

Kristine M. Severyn, Ph.D., R.Ph.

October 11, 2017, Ohio Statehouse, Room 121

Chairman Huffman and members of the Committee: Thank you for the opportunity to address you today about Ohio House Bill 273, which would prohibit the proposed requirement that Ohio physicians enroll in Maintenance of Certification (MOC).

I live near Dayton, Ohio in Representative Jim Butler's district, and am a registered pharmacist with a Ph.D. in biopharmaceutics, specializing in pharmacology, toxicology, and drug kinetics. As a health-care professional, I have studied the MOC issue for several years, and it needs to be stopped. MOC does not improve patient care, and only benefits private organizations with highly-paid staff who wield unnecessary and wasteful power over medical specialists.

I am also a patient who values the care provided to me by medical specialists of my choosing. Time spent by physicians on MOC requirements is time not spent with patients. In addition, if MOC is not stopped, hospitals could deny admitting privileges to non-MOC physicians, insurers could deny reimbursement for care provided by physicians without MOC, and some states may even deny licensure. This could have an adverse effect on patients' choice of their physicians.

As a pharmacist, I am required to complete continuing education to maintain my Ohio license. Physicians likewise must complete their continuing education requirements to maintain their medical licenses. HB 273 would not change this.

Thank you for your careful study of this issue, and joining lawmakers from other states which have already passed legislation against MOC.