

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

I currently live in Akron, Ohio, not because I love the city (not that it is a bad place), but for the simple reason that I am protected from discrimination under Akron law. I cannot lose my housing or my job in this city, and that opportunity should be available to all Ohioans. Our rights matter. Ohio should be a safe place for LGBTQ people to live. Please vote yes on House Bill 369, the Ohio Fairness Act.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Melvin Rhinehart