



To: Members of the Ohio House Health Committee

Fr: Monica Hueckel, Senior Director of Government Relations, Ohio State Medical Association
Joe Rosato, Director of Government Relations, Ohio State Medical Association

Da: January 28, 2020

Re: Sub-HB 177

On behalf of the Ohio State Medical Association (OSMA), the state's oldest and largest professional organization representing Ohio physicians, medical residents, and medical students, we write today with continued opposition to Substitute House Bill 177.

The latest substitute version of HB 177 contains minimal modifications from the previous substitute bill, and it unfortunately does not address the main concerns the OSMA has previously expressed about the bill. Furthermore, the OSMA has not been given opportunity to participate in any interested party meetings in order to properly discuss this legislation with the sponsor or proponents and work through these concerns. This is a critical step in the legislative process of Sub-HB 177 in order to move forward in a constructive manner.

Ohio's patients and patient care remain at the heart of this issue, and the OSMA's main concern is what is best for patients. The current model of physician-led, team-based care works by allowing a proper balance and cooperation amongst all involved in patient diagnosis and treatment. We believe that the current approach with use of the standard care arrangement helps to make sure patients are safe and receive the best care possible from their care team. This model is evidence-based and patient-preferred, and it is essential that we work together to ensure all Ohioans are provided with high-quality primary care.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments. As always, the OSMA appreciates the opportunity to be a meaningful part of the legislative process. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions.