

November 18, 2020

Laurel Ljubi – Ohio Resident
SB 311 Proponent Testimony
House State and Local Government Committee

Chairman Wiggam, Vice-Chair Stephens, Ranking Member Kelly, and Members of the House State and Local Government Committee:

Thank you so much for this opportunity to provide testimony regarding Senate Bill 311. I urge all of you to support this piece of legislation that would limit the Director of Health order-issuing authority. Currently, the Ohio Director of Health is issuing order after order using presumed authority under ORC 3701.13 – 14. These orders have give the executive branch sole authority in issuing orders with no input from our General Assembly. Our elected Representatives and Senators are the elected voice of Ohioans and so far the handling of this pandemic has been made primarily by 2 people, one being an unelected official.

Ohioans had their right to vote stolen from them when the polls were closed on March 17, 2020. Many voters did not get their chance to vote when a mail-in ballot did not arrive in time. Many other Ohioans have been denied access to see their ill or elderly loved ones, and many more Ohioans have lost their jobs, businesses and livelihoods.

I ask this committee to support SB 311 to limit the authority of the unelected Director of Ohio Department of Health, who has impacted countless Ohioan's daily lives over the past 9 months, and is continuing to adversely impact Ohioans with further intrusive restrictions in how we live our day to day lives. Please support SB 311. Thank you.