

SB311 PROPONENT TESTIMONY

Dear Chairman Wiggam, Vice Chairman Stephens, Ranking Member Kelly, and members of the State and Local Government Committee:

Thank you for allowing me to provide testimony in support of SB311.

I have been practicing chiropractic in the state of Ohio for over 22 years. I also own a small publishing company, that at its inception only published health education books with topics ranging from depressions and schizophrenia to healthy whole food cooking. I also work in a local lab that provides everything from life insurance exams to COVID testing. So you can see, my knowledge in the health field is extensive and I am extremely versed when it comes to the health and well-being of my family and my patients. With that all being said, I have found the governor and the Ohio Health Department's overreach this year to be more than perverse. To have a health department run by a doctor that never had long-term experience working one-on-one in a clinical setting is mind-boggling to me. Then, to have her replaced by an attorney who is, in essence, responsible for dictating how people should conduct themselves to stay healthy is not what I signed up for as an American or an Ohioan. In what I have witnessed this past year, it has become clearly apparent that neither has extensive knowledge in caring for the sick and how to prevent illness. Not once has there ever been a directive to target one of our most susceptible populations, the obese. Not once have I heard a directive to curb smoking when we have been faced with an illness that seems to attack the lungs. Not once have I heard a directive to the population to curb eating sugar or drinking alcohol, which both overtax the liver, our body's powerhouse for detoxing. It's time to remove all of the power from one or two people and give it back to the people of Ohio.

Never in my lifetime have we quarantined the healthy. However, with contact tracing, in regards to COVID, we are doing just that. This unnecessary quarantine has lead to depression and an increase in mental health patient loads at many hospitals, along with many, many suicides. I feel it imperative to have checks and balances to prevent the over-reach of our health department and our governor. Only then can we ensure that our life, liberty, and pursuit of health and happiness are not unnecessarily taken away. This is why I'm a proponent of SB311.

Thank you again for the opportunity to provide proponent testimony.

Pam Connery, DC