SB 311 PROPONENT TESTIMONY of

Nancy A. Gottron

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

The governor of the State of Ohio and the Director(s) of the Ohio Department of Health have exercised and exerted authority over Ohioans beyond the scope of their designated roles. The mandates set forth are based on data from theoretical models and manipulated data. Furthermore, the State of Ohio ORC119.03g1 states by definition, that a state of emergency can only last 120 days and cannot be reissued.

Governor DeWine and the Directors of Dept. of Health are ignoring the economic, social and mental health hardships brought on by lockdowns and mandates. Child abuse, suicides, domestic violence, depression and mental health issues, deaths from other diseases, inability for Ohioans to receive "non-essential" (in whose eyes?) healthcare have far surpassed the number of "COVID-related" deaths. Economic impact on ALL Ohioans has been or will be devastating to businesses and families.

We are daily losing our freedoms that will NOT result in halting the virus. Governor DeWine and/or the Departments of Health should not be forcing health care decisions, i.e. mask and vaccine mandates, limits on gatherings, etc. on anyone; we should have the freedom to choose our own level of health and risk.

For these stated reasons, I urge you to uphold your oath to the Constitution to protect the freedoms of your constituents by passing SB311.

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Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

Nancy Gottron