

Dear Chairman Wiggans , and members of the State and Local Government Committee,

I am an Ohio Citizen, and like the majority of Ohio citizens I approve of measures instituted to protect the public health and to save lives in a pandemic. I teach CPR and First Aid-- saving lives is part of my ethic. Sometimes, saving a life means preventing a life-threatening illness from spreading.

I am strongly opposed to SB 311, which weakens the effectiveness of Ohio's Health director at a time when we need them most. There is strong evidence that asymptomatic and pre-symptomatic individuals can transmit Covid-19, making widespread transmission-reduction measures necessary.

Medical professionals are on the front lines of this pandemic. State legislators with no medical training should not be overriding the expertise of medical professionals when we are in the middle of a public health crisis. At the time of writing there are 22,000 Ohioans currently hospitalized with Covid-19. Our doctors and nurses are exhausted. They, and the majority of Ohioans, want coordinated action to help turn the tide and get this pandemic under control.

I ask you to consider my testimony and vote NO on this dangerous bill.

Thank you for considering this written testimony.

A. Prince