

Representative Al Cutrona 59th Ohio House District

Chair Hillyer, Vice Chair Grendell, Ranking Member Galonski, and members of the House Civil Justice Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide sponsor testimony on House Bill 350.

Ohioans are more than welcome to take the COVID-19 vaccine for the health and well-being of themselves and others. However, I am concerned that our unalienable rights are being threatened by a group who is willing to trade individual liberty for what they believe to be the collective good. I believe that Ohioans deserve for their rights be defended from all serious threats: governmental, societal, or otherwise.

This bill effectively addresses this type of intrusion by ensuring that no individual shall be vaccinated against COVID-19 without consent. No person or government agency shall mandate a vaccine against COVID-19, nor shall they require an individual to provide vaccination or recovery history status.

House Bill 350 establishes that it is unlawful discrimination to deny equal treatment to individuals based on their COVID-19 medical history, including with respect to employment. It recognizes that an individual's medical history information is private and bans tech companies from sharing or selling private health information through digital applications or scannable codes.

As the Chief Operating Officer at an infectious disease practice in Mahoning County, I understand the usefulness of vaccines, but this is a freedom issue. House Bill 350 will ensure that the liberties of all Ohioans are protected throughout this vaccination phase of the pandemic. Thank you again for the opportunity to testify, and I welcome any questions that you may have.