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House Bill 631 Sponsor Testimony

Chairman Hillyer, Vice Chair Grendell, Ranking Member Galonski, and members of the Ohio House Civil Justice Committee, thank you for providing the opportunity to provide sponsor testimony on House Bill 631 – the COVID-19 Health Care Professional-Patient Relationship Protection Act.

This legislation will protect the doctor-patient relationship in Ohio by codifying the authority for healthcare professionals to administer any of the below listed drug therapies for patients diagnosed with COVID-19 or one of its variants. Currently, these therapies, which have been shown to be clinically effective, are unavailable to patients who may benefit from them because of unnecessary government intervention and red tape.

Under this bill, the following drug therapies shall be permitted for use as requested by patients who are diagnosed with COVID-19 or a variant and when deemed appropriate for use by that patient’s medical professional:

- Hydroxychloroquine;
- Azithromycin;
- Ivermectin;
- Budesonide; and
- Other therapeutics that may be proven effective or deemed beneficial for the treatment of COVID-19 or its variants;

Respecting the authority and judgement of Ohio’s medical community is paramount. This bill achieves this by limiting unnecessary state interference in the doctor-patient relationship and by promoting the use of these therapies in circumstances whereby doctors, healthcare professionals and patients agree to their use.

I am happy to answer any questions you may have about this legislation.