

Rep Manchester, ranking member Liston and members of the Families Aging, and Human Services Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify on HB 371. I want to first thank Rep Schmidt and Rep Denson for their leadership on bringing forth this much needed bill to Ohio. As a young black woman I unfortunately became aware of a disparity the hard way. I want to share with you my personal story that I hope NO other Ohioan has to experience. July 26, 2017 I went to the doctor because there was an indentation in my breast. They did a sonogram followed by a mammogram which lead to a biopsy all in the same day. I was diagnosed with stage 3 invasive ductal carcinoma (IDC) at the age of 30 on August 9th 2017. I underwent chemotherapy, which affected my whole body. After every treatment feeling like I was struck by a truck and barely being able to get out of bed. All the medication on a daily basis! That's 13 pills a day, which is 364 pills a month! After treatment January 24th 2018 was my first surgery. I had to get a double mastectomy and reconstruction. After healing there was 8 weeks of radiation every day. Only just to go through chemotherapy again due to my cancer spreading in my lymph nodes. These past 4 years have been a struggle. I've been affected mentally, physically, and emotionally. From being a single mom, trying to keep everything together, and losing my job due to having restrictions. September 9th of this year was my last surgery. This is a tough battle and I wouldn't want anyone going through what I went through. The passage of HB 371 will not only help prevent situations like mine, but will help assure that all women across the state of Ohio have an opportunity to access the preventive care that we all deserve. As we see health disparities across the State I am confident that the passage of this bill will lower that percentage. I urge passage of this bill and I am happy to answer any questions any member may have.

TO THE SPEAKER OF THE OHIO HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
134<sup>TH</sup> GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Pursuant to House Rules 111 and 112, I hereby notify the Chair that I am requesting to photograph, audiotape, video record or video broadcast a portion of the Committee hearing of the House of Representatives.

Name: Kenya Ruff

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Purpose: sister is giving testimony

Committee: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: 10/14 Time: 16:00

For House Member (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

**Please check all that apply:**

Legislative Correspondents' Association or Radio and Television Correspondents' Association member?

Yes  No

If "No," have you received temporary credentials from the appropriate Association?

Yes  No

I hereby request to be granted access to:

Photograph  Audio record  Video record  Video broadcast

10/14  
(Date)

Ken Ruff  
(Signature)

Request to photograph/audio record/video record approved:

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of Committee Chair)

Request to video broadcast approved:

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of Committee Chair)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(House Clerk *pp. Speaker of the House*)

*\*Pursuant to House Rule 120, and without exception, the video or audio recording of any portion of the committee may not be used in political or commercial activities.*