

PROPONENT TESTIMONY OF:

Katie Mihaly
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IN SUPPORT OF:

HB 55
Allow House committees/sessions be conducted virtually
House Government Oversight Committee

Dear Members of the Committee, I am writing to encourage you to vote to pass HB55 which would allow virtual testimony on legislative hearings.

During this pandemic, so much has been made possible by technology. mental health care and other health care appointments, K-12 and college classes, etc. We have discovered that many of the artificial restrictions we had placed on the use of technology are not actually necessary for the functioning of our society.

I believe that requiring a trip to Columbus to present testimony in person is an unreasonable expectation that does not directly impact the quality of the testimony received. Especially in this global health crisis that has disproportionately affected some communities, it is unfair that certain groups, because of age or illnesses, are rendered unable to participate in this part of our democratic process.

Thank you for your consideration of this important bill.