



OHIO PHARMACISTS ASSOCIATION

2674 Federated Blvd., Columbus, OH 43235 • Phone: (614) 389-3236 • Fax: (614) 389-4582

Proponent Testimony for House Bill 558

Ernie Boyd, Pharm.D, MBA

Executive Director, Ohio Pharmacists Association

Chairman Lipps, Vice Chair Holmes, Ranking Member Liston, and members of the House Health Committee, I am Ernest Boyd, Executive Director of the Ohio Pharmacists Association. The OPA strongly supports House Bill 558.

Charitable pharmacies in Ohio do an amazing job of providing medications to those who can least afford it. This important legislation will enhance their ability to obtain these life-saving drugs. There are many times when cancer patients, and others, no longer need the medication that was prescribed for them. However, the drugs are still safe to use for another patient. This legislation will make these often expensive, life-saving, medications available, while also assuring the public that the drugs are safe to use.

I am pleased that the Ohio State Board of Pharmacy has agreed to this language, because they are known as an organization that strongly protects the public. As you heard in testimony, there are patients who desperately need medications that are still good but end up being discarded because there is no statute authorizing their use. This bill solves that problem.

The Ohio Pharmacists Association strongly supports this legislation and salutes those pharmacists who provide service in charitable pharmacies around Ohio. Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, thank you for reviewing my written testimony. I encourage you to support HB 558.

Sincerely,

Ernest Boyd
Executive Director
Ohio Pharmacists Association