



November 23, 2022

P. Scott Lipps, Chair
Ohio House of Representatives, Health Committee

RE: HB 608 - Support

Honorable Chair and Committee Members,

On behalf of the International Foundation for Autoimmune & Autoinflammatory Arthritis (AiArthritis), I encourage you to vote yes on HB 608 when up for a vote in your committee.

We are leaders in advancing education, advocacy, and research for those impacted by autoimmune and autoinflammatory arthritis (AiArthritis) diseases through peer-led guidance, collaboration, and resources that are driven by patient-identified issues and patient-infused solutions. As we are led by patients we understand the importance of ensuring that the coverage of biomarker testing by insurance companies keeps up with advancements and innovation in treatment of many diseases, including autoimmune and autoinflammatory diseases.

Progress in improving health outcomes increasingly involves the use of precision medicine. Biomarker testing can lead to improved survivorship and better quality of life for patients with cancer and living with chronic illness. Biomarkers are often used to help determine the best course of treatment for patients, and timely access to this biomarker testing can also lead to reduced costs by connecting patients to the most effective treatment for their disease or cancer, eliminating the need to try other therapies that won't be effective.

HB 608 will ensure that biomarker testing is covered by insurance companies to better serve their policyholders and their families.

We urge you to vote yes on HB 608.

Sincerely,

Lindsey Viscarra
Public Policy Manager
International Foundation for Autoimmune & Autoinflammatory Arthritis