

Chairman Wiggam, Vice Chairman John, Ranking Member Kelly, and members of the State and Local Government Reform Committee,

I am writing to testify as a verily concerned Ohio citizen in regards to the overreach of power in our current Ohio government. HB 90 is a step to supply a check of power on the current Governor and any who may take up the office in the future by the establishment of the Ohio Health Oversight and Advisory Committee.

Along with millions of other Ohioans, I am among the affected by this overreach of power. The measures purported by the current officials and mandated illegally after the 120 day period allowed for emergencies have caused great unrest for myself and my family as we anticipate the coming of my first child. The policies in place at labor and delivery wards at hospitals, no doubt supported and encouraged by the current officials, allow for the temporary removal of the baby from the mother based upon the COVID testing results. In the case of a positive test, hospital policy procedures would separate the mother and baby, allowing no visitors to the baby, including even the mother, for the duration of the baby's quarantine and treatment.

It should be unthinkable to remove a baby from his/her mother.

I do realize that government officials are not writing specific hospital policy but they are supporting and encouraging this kind of rhetoric in the protocols of hospitals.

Additionally, I have the right to refuse a COVID test upon admittance to a hospital but "will be treated as a positive test." By enforcing these policies, the coercion to forsake my right is supported. In some hospitals, this means that I would be afforded no support persons, not even my husband. In other hospitals, this means that my husband would be required to suit up in the equivalent of surgical gear (i.e. N-95 mask, goggles, gown, gloves, etc.). The illogical design of these policies is quite unfathomable— as surely my husband and I live in the same home. This is the sort of incredible illogical thinking that is threaded throughout many of the mandates and orders set in place by the current government officials.

I demand to be heard as a citizen of Ohio under the overreach of this government.

Respectfully in favor of freedom,
Mary Kallis