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**Proponent Testimony for House Bill 90**  
**Ohio House State and Local Government Reform Committee**  
**February 17, 2021**

Chairman Wiggam, Vice Chair John, Ranking Member Kelly, and members of the House State and Local Government Reform Committee, I am Stephanie Stock, President of Ohio Advocates for Medical Freedom, a non-partisan non-profit advocating for Ohioan's right to choose or refuse any medical treatment or procedure, including vaccination. Our organization represents an active community of over forty thousand. I am here today to testify in support of Ohio House Bill 90.

According to the Ohio Department of Education, there are currently over 1.6 million students enrolled in Ohio schools. A recent report released by the CDC the estimated vaccination coverage among children enrolled in kindergarten for the 2019-2020 school year is estimated at 92.4%. OAMF can conclude that the parents and guardians of over 125,000 students in the state are utilizing state allowed philosophical, religious, or medical exemptions.

So, what does this have to do with legislation that establishes "legislative oversight of the Governor's executive orders"?

Since March of last year, the world has become a very different place. One where public officials around the country, and indeed in Ohio, have implemented state mandates, in the name of mitigating a pandemic, and have restricted various liberties of citizens who, in most cases, were neither ill, nor contagious.

As the public grows more impatient with strict mandates and everyone wishes to resume some level of "normalcy", new efforts to "mitigate" the spread of Coronavirus are being announced daily – many of which only intended to maximize vaccine coverage. For example, in Ohio, Governor DeWine asked school districts to commit that their teachers would get vaccinated, almost implying that it was a prerequisite for schools to return to regular in-person classes. Another example, several airlines have announced that travelers may soon be required to have a Covid vaccine "passport" in order to travel. We are rapidly re-entering the era of "show your papers please."

Many Americans, who cannot, or choose not to be vaccinated, fear that the world is becoming a place where they will no longer be permitted to travel, attend music or sporting events, or even send their children to school. Once these new social constructs and technologies are in place, we will be just a signature away from an unchecked Governor, capable of mandating vaccines for all.

Medicine is a practice, not a science. Despite the fact that we frequently hear that "science is settled", the reality is, the moment we say that, we actually contradict the scientific method itself. The scientific method is defined as: "A method... of procedure consisting in systematic observation, measurement, and experiment, and the formulation, testing, and modification of hypotheses... criticism is the backbone of the scientific method."



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If criticism is the backbone of the scientific method, then why is criticism of the science behind the current governor's health orders controversial or unscientific? Why are only governor or Ohio Department of Health's scientific voices considered in the health decision making process for the entire state?

During a public health emergency, legislators – and thus, the citizens who have elected them – are not even considered in the decision-making process. When the executive branch, in consultation with non-elected officials, declare a state of emergency, our legislative body is effectively removed from the process, and the people affected by the emergency orders are silenced – including the voices of countless healthcare and scientific professionals who offer opposing perspectives about an experimental vaccine.

Ohio Advocates for Medical Freedom strongly believes checks and balances are necessary to ensure that one single individual is unable to make such unfettered medical mandates and urges you to vote in favor of House Bill 90.

God Bless! Sincerely,

*Stephanie Stock*

Stephanie Stock, LPTA

President, Ohio Advocates for Medical Freedom

Parent of a child that suffered a vaccine injury.