

Testimony of Christopher Isaacson
Proponent of House Bill 90
State and Local Government Committee
February 15, 2021

Chairman Wiggam, Vice Chair John, Ranking Member Kelly and honorable members of the State and Local Government Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony in support of House Bill 90.

I kindly urge you to vote yes on House Bill 90 for the following reasons:

- The creation of laws, rules or orders should not be granted to one branch of government. As an extension of the Executive Branch, the Director of Health, an unelected position, should not have the power to execute orders without the consent of the General Assembly and the voice of the people. As shown in the figure on the following page, as presented in the Executive Budget, The Citizens of Ohio are at the top of the State of Ohio Organization Table. Not the Director of Health nor the Governor.
- Senators and Representatives are elected by the people of Ohio to be our voices in Congress and provide the opportunity to for us to express our objections and approvals of rules and regulations adopted the State. This bill allows for the ability to express our views on how the current and future orders affect our lives. No law or order should ever be imposed without the consideration of impact on the Citizens of Ohio.
- Emergencies, thankfully, do not last forever, and orders should not either. Emergency orders do not allow for a full review and understanding of the impact on the lives of our citizens. The emotional, financial, educational, health impacts and more must all be evaluated. Allowing for the general assembly to evaluate each public health state of emergency gives people, families, businesses, religious establishments, special needs organizations and schools the opportunity to be heard. It allows for additional researchers, doctors, scientists, and health care professionals to be heard. Therefore, gives the general assemble the important opportunity to represent their citizens.
- Declaring a public health emergency is only meant to get an unknown situation under control. Such as a parachute deployed during a free fall allows for a momentary reduction in speed during decent but is not intended to be worn the rest of life. Such as an airbag being deployed during a collision, but not intended to be fully inflated at all times while driving. Safety measures have been implemented, reviewed and changed throughout history, and this time should not be any different. Every public health emergency should have a limit, and every decision made for the public should be reviewed and public opinion heard.

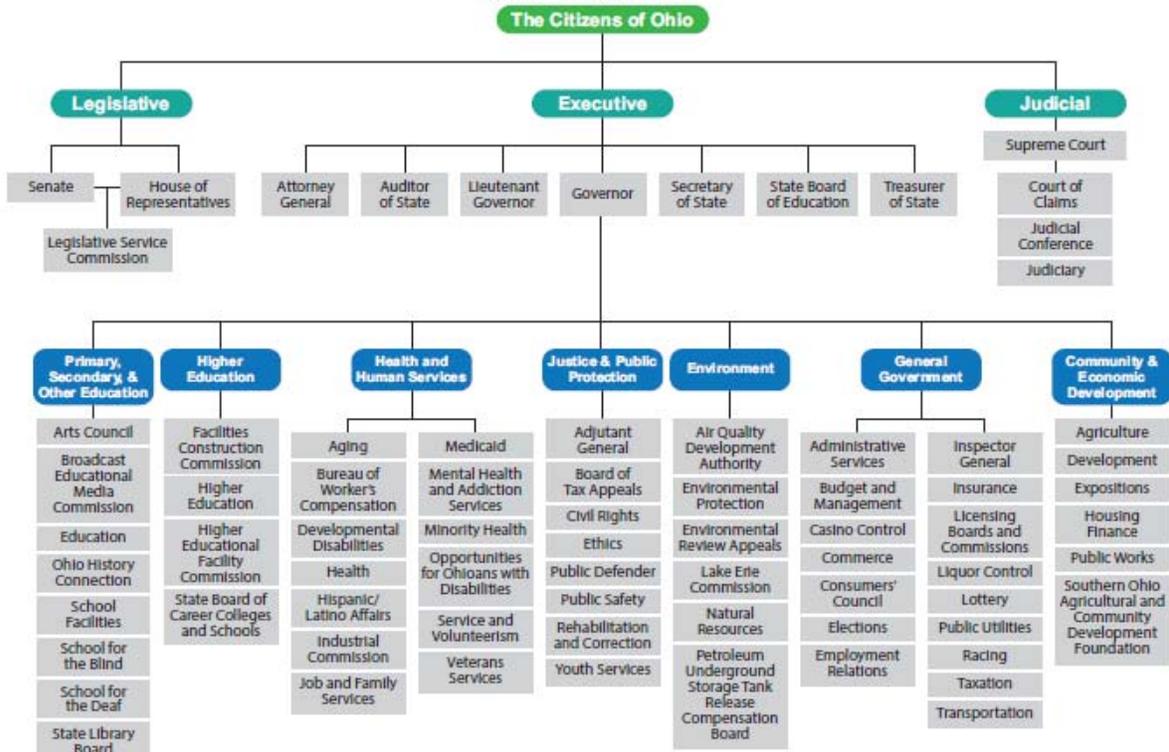
I appreciate your time in reading this testimony, and I kindly urge you to vote Yes on HB 90.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Chris

State of Ohio Organization Table

Figure A-3: State of Ohio Organization Table



Organization Table as proposed in fiscal years 2022-2023 Executive Budget