

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

I am testifying today as a proponent of HB 90. My family and I are Ohio residents deeply concerned about courses of action being taken under the current emergency powers.

We are tired of the drastic measures taken in response to the spread of COVID-19, which are enacted in the absence of compelling data to justify them. We are tired of being commanded to wear medical devices on our faces, and verbally assaulted and intimidated when we exercise our right to breathe and interact in the manner humans in society have always done. And we are tired of the near-constant fearmongering for a virus that has proven to be far less problematic and deadly than originally suspected.

This bill restores the balance of power to where it should be, between the three coequal branches of government. It gives a voice to the people - as the construction of our government intends - via their legislators. The ability of the governor to unilaterally issue these mandates over the past year is troubling. It has devastated small businesses, set young children back in their education and social development, driven friends and families apart, and polarized the community.

Life is not without risk. Participation in society is not without risk. Dangers like Influenza, Pneumonia, car accidents and natural disasters will always be present. COVID-19 is no different, and certainly not worth shutting down society and destroying the livelihoods of countless Americans.

Our businesses, our economy, our social and emotional well-being and the future of our children are on the line. Our state cannot thrive under the continued oppressive and unopposed orders of an over-reaching Governor.

Please stand up and protect our personal liberties and the future of our state by voting YES on HB 90!