

Chairman Wiggam, Vice Chair John, Ranking Member Kelly, and members of the State and Local Government committee:

My name is Dr. Roma Amin. I am a Family Medicine physician in Columbus, Ohio. I am writing in strong opposition to House Bill 90. Thousands of Ohioans have died over the past year. Each of these individuals was someone's parent, child, sibling, friend, patient, constituent. As we grieve and deal with the collective trauma of these lives lost, we must also reflect on the fact that thousands of more Ohioans would've died without coordinated, evidence-based, nonpartisan leadership from the Department of Health.

As we roll out the vaccine efforts and move forward in the last chapter of this COVID pandemic, we need our elected leaders in government to partner with the health care system and work together with our shared values of unity and bipartisanship. We need our government to role model and contribute to the incredible things that our state can do when we work together.

This proposed bill only seeks to further divide us. It would prioritize the needs of few over the needs of all. It will undoubtedly contribute to more deaths. It will slow down our state's ability to move forward with economic recovery. It will increase health care spending and take away resources from the patients and communities who truly need it.

If we work together, we can bring the recovery that our state so desperately needs. I implore you to vote in opposition on this dangerous bill. Thank you for your time and consideration of my testimony.

Respectfully submitted,  
Roma Amin, MD