

Dear Representative:

I am providing written testimony as a proponent witness for HB103. I know we have all been busy with SB22, and while that bill is extremely important to Ohioans it unfortunately left some egregious loopholes that a power-hungry governor might choose to exploit. HB103 closes a few of those loop holes to further protect Ohioans.

A few key provisions in HB103 are that it reduces the duration of emergency administration rules from 120 days (much too long in this age of quick communication and technology) down to 10 days as well as preventing the governor from extending an emergency past 120 days. Furthermore, an important provision of HB103 is that it prevents a governor from just making a new emergency with the same substance! Prevents "double jeopardy."

Finally, HB103 provides a requirement that the office review an emergency rule to determine whether it has an adverse impact on businesses and allows the office to make recommendations to eliminate this impact. This provision might be the most important based on the recent history of the health emergency and its unjust damage to small businesses. These impacts are not measured or accounted for when the governor talks about the health emergency, but the damage is real and needs to be included in any assessment.

Larissa Blais