

Dear Honorable Members of the Ohio Senate General Government Budget Committee,

I am writing today on behalf of SAFE Communities, we are a non-profit organization whose purpose is to support pro-vaccine lawmakers and legislation. We are strongly opposed to HB 218, to prohibit vaccine requirements. We have followed proceedings closely and we are very concerned about the impact this bill will have on the health and safety of the communities you represent.

There are protections already in place in Ohio's laws that allow for individuals to decline vaccinations for medical and non-medical reasons. HB 218 is based on fear and misinformation and hinders the ability of our hospitals and long-term care facilities to protect our most vulnerable citizens from contagious and deadly diseases. It denies our businesses the freedom to protect their workers and customers from preventable disease, hindering the ability of the free market to do their part in protecting our communities.

SAFE Communities respectfully asks for your no vote on HB 218 and wants to thank you in advance for taking the many organizations who are in opposition into consideration during deliberations.

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