

Chair Roegner, Vice Chair McColley, Ranking Member Craig, and the Honored Members of the Government Oversight and Reform Committee:

I am writing to express my concern on how the mandates have affected the residents of the state of Ohio. First of all, there has been zero science on why we are mandating masks and shutting down business. In fact, if you look at the case numbers from each state (no matter if there have been strict mandates or not) the case numbers are almost exactly the same per 1,000 people. As a business owner who primarily works with seniors, I have seen how the mandates have made it more difficult for seniors to food banks, senior center activities, senior housing apartments have ceased all social events. Many seniors are getting sick from wearing masks too often without cleaning. We are isolating seniors from their families, some of my clients have not seen their children for almost a year.

I have also seen the affects on my own family, my 12 year old daughter has been unable to participate in social events with her friends and has struggled with anxiety and depression through these mandates. It should be obvious by that the cure (if you call the mandates a cure) have caused more harm to the residents of Ohio than the actual virus.

Reigning in the power of a few people would be a great first step in the right direction for helping the greater amount of Ohio citizens.

Larry J Booksh, Jr

"The moment you give up, is the moment you let someone else win" -Kobe Bryant