

Hello Senator Thomas,

My name is Christy Benhase and I am a constituent of your district (Madisonville), as well as a nurse at Cincinnati Children's Hospital. As a nurse, I take COVID-19 very seriously. I also, however, take the exorbitant suffering caused by the Governor & Health Directors' mandates very seriously. I believe SB22 strikes a better balance by maintaining the Governor's executive powers for emergent threats, but also providing the checks and balances of the legislature. One or two individuals, even with good intent, should not be making statewide decisions for over 11 months without any involvement of elected local representatives. As Ohioans, we need all branches of government to collaborate in fighting this disease instead of the current unilateral approach.

I would be happy to talk further about the very real health consequences of the mandates. I've e-mailed you before and have not received a response, so I'm copying the members of your committee in hopes of having my voice heard.

Thank you for your consideration,

Christine E. Benhase RN