

Since 2007: Protecting Faith, Family, Freedom, and the Sanctity of Life

> Written Testimony of John Stover President, Ohio Value Voters Criminal Justice Committee House Bill 245 June 4, 2024

Chair Abrams, Vice Chair Williams, and members of the Committee: my name is John Stover and I am the President of Ohio Value Voters. Our organization promotes the values of Faith, Life, Families, and Religious Freedom. Since 2007, our purpose has been to educate, inform, and influence voters and elected officials in Ohio. We are independent of any political party, religious organization, or political action committee. <u>Ohio Value Voters</u> is a registered 501(c)(4) organization.

Our organization is in support of House Bill 245 and urges the committee to pass this bill to the House Floor for a vote.

This bill will prohibit drag shows from being performed in places other than places of adult entertainment.

Children should not be exposed to drag performances and grooming by men dressed as women. The passage of this bill will provide a safe place for children and parents within their communities. Parents and grandparents should not fear that their children are being exposed to explicit material and performances.

Would it be appropriate for a father of a ten-year-old boy to patronize a men's only club with his son, where adult women were dancing in some form of being nude?

Over five years ago, Ohio Value Voters reported a nine-year-old boy dancing in a Lancaster, Ohio bar at an adult cabaret performance. <u>LINK TO VIDEO</u> In the video, adult men are cheering and giving money to this boy as he dances. House Bill 245 would prohibit even the attendance of a child from attending such an event.

This bill would also prohibit an adult cabaret performance in Ohio's public and private schools. Watch: <u>Adults Cheer As Drag Queen Dances For Little Girl (youtube.com)</u>

In conclusion, this bill must be passed by the committee and sent to the House Floor for a vote.

Thank you.

John Stover, President Ohio Value Voters