

Douglas Horner
5018 Herman Ave.
Cleveland, OH 44102

October 9th, 2023

Dear Chairman Peterson and Ranking Member Humphrey,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on SB 158. My name is Douglas Horner and I am writing to oppose the passage of Senate Bill 158, a law that would prohibit participatory budgeting in Ohio.

Cleveland voters deserve the opportunity to vote on issues that matter most to them. Issue 38 in Cleveland is one. SB 158 is a blatant attempt to strip Clevelanders of their ability to decide for themselves on the question of creating a People's Budget. The process of participatory budgeting has been used in hundreds of cities around the United States as a form of civic education and engagement for residents to work with elected officials and city government to determine how their taxpayer dollars are spent.

People deserve to have a voice about how their community is run.

SB 158 prevents localities from addressing local problems. I strongly oppose SB 158.

Sincerely,

Douglas Horner