

Tina M. Wise, RPh – HB73 Proponent Testimony: April 25, 2023

Chairman Cutrona, Vice Chair Gross, Ranking Member Somani, and members of the Health Provider Services Committee, thank you for allowing me to provide support testimony for HB 73; the Dave and Angie Patient and Health Provider Protection Act.

I applaud Representatives Gross and Loychik for putting forth this bill to protect Ohio citizens and healthcare providers. As an Ohio pharmacist with over 30 years of experience, I feel this legislation will protect all healthcare professionals and their ability to provide the best medical care for their patients.

Since I started my pharmacy career, I have dispensed numerous medications prescribed by physicians for off-label uses. This is common practice, and it allows physicians and other healthcare professionals to use their education and training to help their patients, especially in individual cases where there are extenuating circumstances and/or no tried-and-true, established treatments. Many times, various off-label treatments emerge from individual case reports that are shared amongst medical professionals, and it is our duty to use this information and our skills, think outside the box, listen to our patients and treat them in a manner specific to their needs with dignity, care and compassion.

To withhold potentially live-saving care from an individual because it lies outside of a “standard protocol” or because is not an “FDA-approved use” is abhorrent to me and should never occur in our state, or in our nation for that matter.

Pass the Dave and Angie Patient and Health Provider Protection Act and ensure that physicians and other healthcare professionals can maintain the freedom and ability to provide the best medical care for their patients. Thank you for your time.