



**Meredith Craig, Director of Healthcare Policy
Ohio Chamber of Commerce**

*Proponent – Substitute House Bill 24
May 8, 2024*

Chairman Lampton, Vice Chair Barhorst, and members of the House Insurance Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide proponent testimony on Substitute House Bill 24. My name is Meredith Craig, and I am the Director of Healthcare Policy for the Ohio Chamber of Commerce.

As you may know, the Ohio Chamber has served as the state's leading business advocate, and we represent over 8,000 companies that do business in Ohio. Our mission is to aggressively champion free enterprise, economic competitiveness, and growth for the benefit of all Ohioans.

We would like to thank Representative Andrea White for her willingness to work with the Ohio Chamber to address our initial concerns of HB 24. While we began as an opponent to this legislation, the changes included in the substitute bill address areas of concern, leading us to a position of support. Changes include ensuring biomarker testing is medically necessary and encouraging a competitive market between insurance carriers and healthcare providers.

The Ohio Chamber supports the overall intent of Sub. HB 24. In the Ohio Chamber's [Blueprint for Ohio's Economic Future](#), we emphasize the importance of transforming Ohio's healthcare delivery system, preventing the development of early, chronic health conditions, and improving health outcomes for a sustainable and healthy workforce. Sub. HB 24 aims to help Ohioans battling cancer and other illnesses with targeted and less invasive treatment. Biomarker testing can be used to identify which cancer patients are at low risk of metastasis, allowing them to forgo unnecessary and costly treatment. While there will be an impact on health insurance premiums, this measure can lead to improved treatments and the decrease of long-term healthcare costs. Additionally, it will allow individuals to be more productive in the workforce by avoiding radiation and chemotherapy treatments.

Thank you again to Representative Andrea White for her work on this legislation and to the House Insurance Committee for the opportunity to provide testimony today. I welcome any questions you may have.