



State Representative Latyna M. Humphrey (OH-02)

Sponsor Testimony

April 19, 2023

Good afternoon Chair Lipps, Vice Chair Stewart, Ranking Member Liston, and all other members of the Public Health Policy Committee. I am here today to talk about HB 28, a bill that would designate March as Triple Negative Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

Triple Negative Breast Cancer is a unique type of breast cancer. According to the [American Cancer Society](#), the name “refers to the fact that the cancer cells don’t have estrogen or progesterone receptors and also don’t make any or too much of the protein called HER2.” This type of cancer tends to be more common in women under 40 and Black women. This type of cancer tends to grow and spread faster than other types of breast cancer.

There are some common myths about Triple Negative Breast Cancer. The first is that TNBC can have the same treatments as people with other types of breast cancer. This type of cancer requires a specific treatment and not all types of typical cancer treatments work for it. The second is that only Black women get TNBC. In fact, this type can affect any woman. But breast cancers in Black women are more likely to be TNBC. The last is that TNBC is always hard to treat. The truth is that how well treatment works depends on tumor size and whether it has traveled to the lymph node just as much as the fact that it is triple negative type cancer.

Last March I introduced a resolution designating March 2022 as Triple Negative Breast Cancer Awareness Month. I am pleased to say that it passed. During that time a plethora of women came out and expressed their support and their gratitude. It was a whole community of women who care about this issue. They have experienced TNBC or

know someone who has experienced TNBC. I've spoken to so many women who care deeply about this issue. It is a beautiful community.

Triple Negative Breast Cancer is out there and is affecting many women in our community. I believe it is important to honor women with this disease. I also believe it is important to spread awareness of it by designating March as Triple Negative Breast Cancer Awareness Month. I humbly ask that you vote yes on HB 28. I am happy to answer any questions members of the committee might have at this time