

Written Testimony on House Bill 33

Senate Finance Committee

May 25, 2023

Deborah Speer, AARP Volunteer

Columbus, Ohio

Greetings Chairman Dolan, Vice Chair Cirino, Ranking Member Sykes and distinguished members of the Senate Finance Committee My name is Deborah Speer. I live in Columbus, Ohio and have been a volunteer with AARP for 7 years. As an AARP volunteer, I have worked at the Ohio State Fair, Movies for Grown-ups, and helped people file their taxes at no cost with the AARP Tax Aide program. I am here today to support Ohio Department of Aging's proposal for the Healthy Aging Grants. These programs help senior citizens, like me, age in their home.

I'll be 70 years on May 28th. I've lived in a two-story home for 22 years. I love my home and want to age their as long as I can. Over the years, I've made modifications to my house like: adding grab bars in my bathroom to help me get in and out of by bath and shower and got new higher toilets. Like most older Ohioans, I do not want to live in a nursing home. I feel safe in my home and programs like Health Aging Grants will help people make modifications to their homes, so they can live more, independently.

Thank you for allowing me to offer testimony.