

September 25, 2023

Margaret K Misak
3018 Clinton Ave
Cleveland, OH 44113

Dear Chairman Rulli and Ranking Member DeMora:

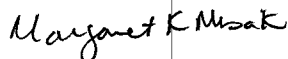
Thank you for your time and the opportunity to submit testimony on SB 158. My name is Margaret K Misak, and I am writing in opposition of Senate Bill 158.

Cleveland voters deserve the opportunity to have their voices heard on Issue 38 through a local vote in Cleveland. 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 proven in hundreds of cities around the United States as a way to increase civic education and engagement for residents to work with elected officials and city government to determine how their taxpayer dollars are spent.

To preempt citizens' voice at a local level corrodes trust in both state and municipal government.

I strongly oppose SB 158, and would be happy to speak with any members of the committee in more details about my opposition. Democracy is best served in the capable hands of the voters themselves.

Sincerely,



Margaret K Misak