

December 5, 2023

OH HB 68
Opponent Testimony
The Ohio Senate Government Oversight Committee

Dear Chair Kristina Roegner, Vice-Chair Niraj Antani, Ranking Member Paula Hicks-Hudson, and Members of the Senate Government Oversight Committee:

My name is Mitali Sharma, and **I am testifying in strong opposition of the *Save Adolescents from Experimentation Act*, the SAFE Act.** My testimony is strictly my own and does not represent any health care organization in the State of Ohio.

The SAFE act would create an additional barrier to inclusive, patient-centered care in Ohio by going against current clinical practice guidelines and medical literature. Furthermore, it risks worsening health outcomes for transgender youth and those questioning their gender identity in Ohio. HB 68 will prevent physicians from practicing evidence-based medicine and limit the quality of care available to Ohioans. It also works to dissuade rising physicians like me from staying in Ohio to practice. I urge the committee to support the science of good medicine and **vote NO on HB 68.**

Sincerely,

Mitali Sharma