

Chairman Huffman, Vice Chair Johnson, Ranking Member Antonio, and members of the Senate Health Committee, thank you for hearing my support testimony for HB 73, the Dave & Angie Patient and Health Provider Protection Act.

My name is Dr. Richard Bartlett, I'm the former advisor to Governor Rick Perry on the Texas Health Disparities Taskforce and recipient of the Meritorious Service Award from Texas Health and Human Services. I am a practicing ER physician, medical director of a hospital ER, and the discoverer and published author of a COVID treatment protocol for early and late COVID using Budesonide, Clarithromycin, and Aspirin. I have been practicing medicine in Texas for 33 years.

Dr. Ben Carson was a member of the White House coronavirus taskforce. Dr. Carson and I have discussed that over 90% of COVID deaths could have been prevented with budesonide, based on the STOIC trial, PRINCIPLE trial, TOGETHER trials (randomized controlled trials), and studies published in The Saudi Journal of Anesthesia and Saudi Journal of Critical Care! Budesonide is part of Government COVID protocols in India and Australia but can still be denied Ohio patients without HB73. Refer to Budesonideworks.com for more information.

I'd like to ask the committee members today, if you knew there was a medicine that could save your dying son's life and you were told by the hospital, "sorry we don't allow that, it's not our protocol?" Would you try to find a way to get it for your child? Bodily autonomy is a fundamental patient right. Your body, your healthcare choice, not your body, the hospital's choice, especially when hospitals are paid thousands of dollars more for using one treatment choice over another. The AMA says informed consent is a basic patient right, but Ohio patients were not informed of every treatment choice for COVID or the risks and benefits of every medicine. COVID patients were treated with budesonide in hospitals from coast to coast and quickly recovered, but Ohio COVID patients were refused Budesonide and died. Often, Budesonide was right down the hall in the hospital pharmacy!

HB73 passed overwhelmingly in the House with bipartisan support because they understand that Ohio families lost loved ones due to "standard of care" protocols that did not consider their individual needs and the skill and training of their treating physicians. Even though we had the Federal Right to Try Act and the Ohio Right to Try Act, there were thousands of patients who could not fill prescriptions in pharmacies and could not get access to treatment options within the hospital.

Hospital pharmacy care was improved by Emily's law of Ohio. One 2-year-old died, and a law was passed to make sure not one more life was lost. In contrast, countless COVID victims have been denied budesonide in Ohio hospitals and died. If the OHA and the OPA were the experts of hospital care, why didn't they lobby against dangerous hospital practices BEFORE a 2-year-old died? Didn't the OPA and OHA see the "patient safety" issue before Emily died? I expect the OPA and OHA to use "standard of care" as an argument against patient rights of HB73. What they won't point out is that the "standard of care" changes all the time with new medical discoveries! Take Budesonide for COVID treatment for example. The OPA and OHA didn't save Dave and Angie Plant, Jeff Smith, or countless COVID victims who died. I wouldn't hold my breath for the OPA and OHA to save the day with their opinions. At the "interested party" meeting, there were only 3 official letters from special interest groups against the patient

rights in HB 73: the OHA, the OPA and the Ohio Council of Retail Merchants. Since then, other special interest groups have been recruited to oppose this life-saving bill.

The WHO has gotten it wrong many times! The WHO Director said Monkeypox was a worldwide health emergency 2 years ago. It didn't happen! The WHO praised China's COVID response. COVID came from a lab in China. China didn't cooperate with COVID source investigations! The WHO praised forced vaccinations, mask mandates, social distancing, and lockdowns in China and **SHOULD NOT BE IN CHARGE OF A PANDEMIC RESPONSE** in Ohio! Fauci and Birx have admitted there is no science to back those practices!

We will have MORE pandemics. Without HB 73, I predict millions in Ohio will be denied life-saving medicine. CDC Director Redfield said COVID was just a wakeup call, the great pandemic will be Bird Flu that kills 10-15% of those who get it. U.S. Senator Joni Ernst sent a letter to the USDA stating her concern about research to make Bird Flu more deadly and contagious and collaboration with Chinese scientists for Bird Flu vaccine development funded by U.S. taxpayer dollars. Senator Ernest is concerned about bat experiments in the middle of the U.S. leading to another lab leak pandemic. Refer to Jonfleetwood.com for more information.

In closing, I urge the committee to vote YES on HB 73.

Thank You,

Dr. Richard Bartlett