

Chairman Huffman, Vice Chair Johnson, 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. Had this bill been law at the time, I would have been able to get the prescribed drug of my choice instead of it being denied by my pharmacy.

This country was founded on the truth that governments are formed to protect the rights of its citizens, including the rights to “life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness”. HB 73 demonstrates such governmental protection. It protects the rights of individual Ohioans to choose the drugs that they themselves believe will best serve their life. It protects the rights of those that administer the chosen drugs from reprisals from those that do not agree with an Ohioan’s choice. It also protects the rights of those that do not agree with an Ohioan’s choice from being forced to administer the chosen drugs. HB 73 also prevents any organization from interfering with an Ohioan’s right to choose their own drugs, thereby placing an individual’s rights above that of an organization. This bill protects the right of all Ohioans to choose how best to pursue their own individual life.

This bill also protects Ohioans from foreign interference with their right to make medical choices. The Constitution of the United States does not grant the power to the United States to make any rules or regulations related to health matters. The Constitution therefore reserves such power to the states or to the people. This bill formally recognizes that no dictate from the World Health Organization can legally interfere with the rights of Ohioans to make their own medical decisions.

I urge the committee to vote YES on HB 73.

Michael P. Setter, Ph.D.

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