HB 96 WITNESS INFORMATION FORM

Please complete the Witness Information Form before testifying:

Date: 04/07/2025

Name: Students At Meadowdale Career Technology Center

Are you representing: Yourself   **Organization**
Organization (If Applicable): Dayton Public Schools

Position/Title: Students

Address: 3873 Whitestone Court   City: State: Zip: Dayton, OH 45416

Best Contact Telephone: 937-903-5414 Email: kodonnell@daytonpublic.com

Do you wish to be added to the committee notice email distribution list? **Yes**

Business before the committee

Legislation (Bill/Resolution Number): House Bill 96

Specific Issue: Healthcare Funding

Are you testifying as a: **Interested Party**

Will you have a written statement, visual aids, or other material to distribute? **Yes**

(If yes, please send an electronic version of the documents, if possible, to the Chair's office prior to committee. You may also submit hard copies to the Chair's staff prior to committee.)

How much time will your testimony require? **Each testimony is 1-3 minutes. There are 9 testimonies related to healthcare funding.**

Please provide a brief statement on your position: **The following testimonies advocate for more funding to be allocated to healthcare services, especially for those who can't afford them.**

Please be advised that this form and any materials (written or otherwise) submitted or presented to this committee are records that may be requested by the public and may be published online.

We Need Affordable Healthcare

December 7, 2024

DA2, JE1, JM4, AW5, DD1, KB7, CJR4, RM1, and JB1, edited by GD4 and RM1

How are we going to make healthcare and insurance more affordable? We can solve this problem by educating people on benefits of insurance and putting more funding in this department. Students in government class wrote proposals that asked the Montgomery County Commission to use some of its $1 billion budget to provide more affordable health care and insurance. You can see how the candidates for state and local government voted by looking at the [voter guide we created by interviewing the people running.](#) **Editor: GD4**

Student Testimonies

DA2: **Reopen Good Samaritan Hospital**

We hope to address the demolition of the Good Samaritan Hospital, and how that affected the Dayton Area. This problem is affecting people who lived around the area where the Good Samaritan once stood, and it just feels terrible to not have a hospital near you. This choice of demolishing the Good Samaritan was a pretty horrible choice to do. With no hospital around the area that me and many others live in, it is very dangerous. What if a person had a heart attack, but since there is no hospital around the area, the person might as well, just die! And, people have to travel to Miami Valley, which is even farther. If this problem is not fixed, health problems will get worse. As I have stated before, with no hospital near the area,

more health problems will arise, and people will have to travel to Miami Valley, which is far! So, what must be done to fix this problem? Bring back Good Samaritan. With Good Samaritan rebuilt, it's a hospital near to the area, and people who may experience health problems would get the quick care that they need. **We should spend funds on the reconstruction of Good Samaritan, to help the people in the Dayton Area the healthcare that they deserve and need.**

JM4: Build More Athletic Hospitals

We hope to address the lack of athletic/physical hospitals. The problem that affects the community and people's lives is that some athletes don't recover fully. The impact on the problem is that there's barely athletic hospitals such as sports medicine which causes athletes to recover but they don't strengthen their past injury and that's why many athletes wonder why they re-injure themselves or tweak it. The cause of the problem is athletes injure themselves from overuse of muscles or lack of stretching. If we do nothing, a lot of athletes will never live up to their sports dreams because of an incident. To address the problem, we need to build local physical hospitals. Funds would solve the problem by going around the city to find ground to build athletic hospitals and invest in essentials and workers for the organization. The outcome to this could cause athletes to be able to live up to their childhood dreams in sports with a healthy body.

JE1: Spend Tax Dollars on Hospitals

We hope to address health problems. These health problems are going to make people sick and unsafe for other people. I have personally seen people get sick really bad and die or get other people

sick. The problem is happening because of bad foods and people are not getting vaccinated and they are not getting the help they need. We have to help out hospitals and medical scientists so they can find more vaccines to help people. I would spend taxpayer dollars on hospitals and drugs and vaccines. you will see people getting better and new vaccines coming out and hospitals with less people in them. **– Edited by RM1**

DD1: To the Voter Reading This

We both care about the cost of houses and how unaffordable things are. We agree that the prices of housing and healthcare are too much now and not how they used to be. This is important to fix Because we can help people and ourselves with lower costs. I can't vote but if I could vote I would tell the president to give people affordable healthcare. I would vote for affordable healthcare and housing and transportation for students. We are telling you to look at our voter guide to see which candidates agree.

It could make it better in our world. I would start by Getting affordable prices and motivating people into buying them a home of their own. This will impact our lives and communities by showing that we care about people's health and home care. We have statements showing how much healthcare and housing went up in price through the years.

We want the people to get elected to help people in need to have all the care they can get, and to have a safe place to stay. This matters because people are dying because they don't have enough money to pay for their hospital bills. If we elected people who cared about changing this more, people would get the care they deserve. **The**

important part about this topic is to let people know around the world that their voice matters and is heard.

People are concerned about how they would pay for healthcare, transportation and housing. If we don't have the power to vote for new leaders it would just be the same way and nothing would ever change. This it's important because everybody should have the right to be cared for and treated right. If we sit this election out our opinions will have no voice and people will not get what they need in the world and nothing would change.

Do you agree with voting for affordable healthcare, housing and transportation? Would you vote to make this happen in the future today?

Sincerely, DD1

KB7: To the Voter Reading This

We probably agree that women's rights and health care should be protected and that children's education should be fought for. This election, I am sure you plan to vote, but I want you to be informed. I'm excited to see others exercise their rights. I have voted already, and so should you. This election, we're asking you to make an informed vote for us using the voter guide we made in government class

I want to vote in this election because it can make a very big difference in America as a whole and Dayton. We're trying to be more healthy and productive so that it isn't boring. We want to protect the growth of people. We all want to wake up knowing that the community is being taken care of and knowing that the country is going in the right direction. This is your chance as citizens to have our voice heard

and to make a difference by voting. We help ensure that our leaders are making decisions aligned with our values and priorities shaping our future for the better.

I specifically want the person elected to help us get better healthcare for people who can't afford it and for those who get treated with poor healthcare. I had a grandma who was being treated poorly in a healthcare setting and also just people I witnessed around me who can't afford healthcare. I would like the person I vote for to help with that. This election can help us better our community. It gives us a voice on who we can choose to provide a safe environment that could potentially change the way we access and receive healthcare. This could determine the cost, availability, and quality of healthcare around the world.

I want to vote in this election because it can make a very big difference in America as a whole and Dayton. We're trying to be more healthy and productive so that it isn't boring. We want to protect the growth of people. We as a whole want to see the change in our community and better healthcare for our community. If we do not vote in this election we will not make a difference in our community voicing our right to vote. Do you agree that we all should stand up and voice our opinions fighting for what is right? Can you choose today to exercise your right to vote and better your community?

Sincerely, KB7

AW5: How Many People Have Died When They Could HAve Been Alive?

There is alot going on right now in our world. Our climate change is horrible. Our school is not being supported by the district and our healthcare industry is messed up. I believe everyone should vote to make everything I've named better. Do you feel like health care is a problem in 2024? In my opinion I feel as if healthcare is a problem in 2024 because people that are in hospitals don't know what they are doing or they either just don't care about people's lives So many people that I've known could of still been alive but it was just the hospitals they were at that just gave up on them. This issue is important to me because when I graduate soon I am going to be apart of the healthcare industry and I would like to help people because I like to help not just for the money, another reason I feel like healthcare is a problem in 2024 is because there have been several cyber attacks this year in healthcare and data theft crimes. How many people have died when they could have been alive?

In my opinion, health care, education , and climate change are the most important issues that need to be fixed in 2025 . Whoever can fix these things would be the best president. We need people in healthcare that are certified and like their job. Everyone should vote so we can make this world better: better for us, better for our future families.

JB1: Vote for Affordable Healthcare

We both care about making housing more affordable and providing more affordable healthcare and insurance. We agree that we need a roof over our heads when we move to our parents' house. There is not a lot of affordable housing for us and healthcare and insurance is high.This election you're probably going to go vote, but I want to tell you why I wish I could vote in this election. The reason why is because first I'm only 16 and you're 18 and you have an opportunity to

vote. If you vote what we agreed on it would help a lot. As a young person that can't vote but I do have opinions about how things should be for other teenagers about to go in the real world.If I was able to vote in this election, I would vote for who I think is right. This election I want you to look at our [voter guide](#) and make informed decisions when you vote.

This election can have a huge impact on us and others. It could make things better.Getting more funding for affordable housing and healthcare and insurance is motivating me to get involved in the political process but even though I can't vote. Some leaders have different ideas on how to decrease funded money for making things more affordable. One side wants to raise taxes and the other side wants to decrease funding. We have statements from most of the major candidates saying they would increase funding for healthcare and insurance.

Specifically, we all want the people who get elected to help make houses more affordable and healthcare and insurance.This matters to me because things need to be more affordable mainly for kids that are becoming young adults. Every year someone is graduating or some kids' parents kick their kids out so they can see the real world but it will be harder if things are high .If we elect people who care about changing this, we can get the funding to decrease for healthcare and affordable housing. If you look at the statistics before and after housing and healthcare and insurance was unaffordable, you can see the impact it had on everyone.

 The reason why you need to vote is because in my government class we are concerned about making things more affordable, but we don't

have the power to vote new leaders into office.We can make things more affordable if we elect the right people who align with our beliefs and will propose laws and budgets that meet our needs. If we sit this election out our opinions will have no voice and it would make a lot of people broke.

Do you agree that voting can help us get things more affordable? Can you commit to vote so that we can show the politicians we need these things?

Sincerely, JB1

CJR4: Add Funds to Hire More Healthcare Professionals

I would like to address the issue for healthcare. Some background information is that there is a Lack of insurance coverage, high cost and poor outcomes. The impact that this has on our local community is the rising cost of healthcare and not enough healthcare professionals. At least One in 10 people don't receive the right treatment. People are either wasting their money for healthcare and not receiving the treatment they need or either don't have enough money for it at all. Lack of health insurance coverage may negatively affect health, the cost could lead some to put off needed care

People are still catching cancer and other infections or diseases. We also have places like West Virginia where half of kids don't even get basic vaccines (Emily Rice). I feel like as much money that the people put toward their health care there should at least be a cure for everything. For healthcare to be more affordable we can develop a health care system that emphasizes prevention rather than disease management. This problem is affecting other people around the world

because it's causing emotional harm, anxiety from testing, or from treatment and from creating inappropriate expectations.

The problem is happening because of limited availability. I think the only person who could fix this is the government and the only people who complain are the ones that are not rich. We just need more healthcare professionals. There are now mobile clinics in other states. Another problem is that people are still paying too much for health insurance. I don't think everyone agrees with my debate.
We need the representatives to add funds in the budget to hire more healthcare professionals. You have the power to propose new laws to the legislative branch, and you can call for investigations, So people's lives won't be at risk just because they can't afford healthcare. Otherwise, more people will be stuck with lifetime viruses. Life will be less stressful if we resolve this issue. **Can you commit to add funds in the state budget so we can hire more healthcare professionals?**

RM1: Help Doctors in Poor Areas

Too many people can't get the mental healthcare they need because it costs too much money, is really hard to find, or there are not enough doctors. This problem impacts people's lives because lack of care can lead to way more serious problems.

People want to see the government add more doctors, affordable care, and less stigma around mental health. *This will Help a lot of people get the care they need.*

I want to offer three things the government can do to help.

#1 – Help doctors who work in poor areas.

#2 – Offer better health insurance that covers mental healthcare.

#3 – Offer more online mental health services.

These policies will prevent bigger problems in the long run because it will cost money but save even more money on emergency care. Governments will need to work with local groups to make sure the help gets to everyone who needs it. We'll need money for clinics, doctors' help, ads, and online services. Lawmakers can help us by adding money to the budget for healthcare. We can add funding for staffing, programs, and partnerships. The long-term benefits of this investment far outweigh the cost.

Access to mental healthcare is a fundamental human right crucial for well-being and development.To have a safe and healthy life, we need enough health professionals . *To get more health resources, we are asking for assistance from all levels of government.*