

[OHRGeneralGovernmentCommittee@Ohiohouse.gov](mailto:OHRGeneralGovernmentCommittee@Ohiohouse.gov)

Chair Ray, Vice Chair LaRe, Ranking Member Brent and members of the House General Government Committee

Re: SB 293                      11/17/2025

Thank you for allowing me to testify today. My name is Dr. Cherryanne Gunsch and I have been a citizen of the State of Ohio for over 40 years and own a home in Loveland with my spouse. I am **strongly opposed to SB 293** and any other legislation that has the potential to **suppress voters**.

I am a recently retired physical therapist. Before retiring I worked full-time and my hours were often very long and sometimes unpredictable. Since this made it impossible to vote on voting day I often relied on the mail-in ballot to be sure my voice was heard. Now that I am retired, I take advantage of early voting days to avoid standing in long lines to avoid the pain and wear and tear on my arthritic body.

Even though I no longer rely on the mail-in ballot many of my past patients need the mail-in ballot option. Many have disabilities that makes getting in and out of a car difficult and sometimes painful. Many relied on power wheelchairs to get around and had to rely on more accessible vehicles to leave the house. Even though they were able to get transportation arranged through their insurance often transporters did not have available an appropriate vehicle to transport these folks. Many of my patients had much less complicated transportation needs but still missed appointments because they did not have a car or could not drive and relied on family or friends to pick them up or they relied on a transportation service. They ran into problems when family or friends were unreliable or transportation services made errors in pickup times or even pickup dates.

Obviously, it is the responsibility of the voter to mail in their ballots on time. However, in my experience the U.S. Mail is often quite slow. I have waited weeks for a simple package or letter to arrive having been mailed from a location not that far from my home. Because I track my mailings I have been able to observe that often mail coming from a fairly close office is actually routed to a distant hub before finally being boomeranged back in my general direction.

Currently Ohio law allows for a 4-day grace period if the ballot is mailed on time. This bill would remove this for everyone except active-duty military and others overseas. I cannot understand the purpose of removing this grace period for Ohio voters other than an effort to **suppress voters**. Honestly, if Ohio is already willing to wait 4 days after the election to count active-duty military and other overseas voter ballots, why can the state not afford the same courtesy to everyone?

As a non-partisan voter (a swing vote) I am asking you to do what is best for the people of Ohio. Vote **NO** on this harmful bill that serves only to **suppress the voters**.

Thank you for taking the time to read and consider this viewpoint.