

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

Thank you for allowing me to testify today. My name is Christine Ferens, and I am a concerned, tax paying citizen who believes strongly in the power of using my voice through voting. I am strongly opposed to SB 293.

Voting is the cornerstone of democracy, and there are already too many barriers for Ohioans to assure that their voice is being heard.

Ohioans such as rural voters who live along lower mail routes and reduced postal service days which mean longer delivery times. Ohioans such as seniors and those with disabilities for whom voting by mail is often the only option. And Ohioans without reliable transportation such as those living in poverty and students. All of these populations would be disproportionately impacted by this unnecessary legislation.

I ask you to consider my testimony, respect Ohio voters, and vote NO on this harmful and unnecessary bill. Thank you again for the opportunity to testify.