

House Government Oversight Committee

House Bill 42

Written Testimony Only

William Lonneman, R.N.

November 17, 2025

Dear Chairman Hall, Vice Chair Ferguson, Ranking Member Humphrey, and members of the Government Oversight Committee,

My name is William Lonneman. I am a registered nurse and a resident of Cincinnati. Thank you for the opportunity to submit opponent testimony on Ohio HB 42.

I am opposed to HB 42 for two main reasons:

1. This bill will needlessly add to the reporting requirements of already overburdened state agencies. There are numerous strict qualifications in place to access public benefits in Ohio. What purpose will this new reporting serve? At what cost, to the personnel in our state agencies and to the members of our immigrant communities in Ohio?
2. In regards to those communities, this bill will certainly add to the significant mental stress these men, women, and children are already experiencing. Immigrants, newly arrived or long-term residents, both with and without legal documentation, are already experiencing increased discrimination and in many cases are being compelled into hiding due to the current political climate. Teachers, administrators, nurses, and physicians can tell you stories of how growing fear of immigration enforcement has contributed to low enrollment and reduced participation in life-saving programs. The trust that so many of us in state agencies and their non-profit partners have worked hard for many years to build is being undermined. Families no longer feel that there is a safe environment to access the services they need and are legally entitled to. HB 42 will only push people further away.

Do we really want to make Ohio a more miserable place to live? Can you honestly say that immigrants, no matter their documentation, are the biggest problem that we face in our state? Don't the overwhelming number of immigrants indeed make our state and nation stronger? I urge you to reject this bill and to choose life instead, dedicating our resources to

building a better Ohio, one that respects every person who wants to live, work, and raise their families here.

Thank you.