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**Proponent Testimony for Ohio House Bill 12 – “Jeff, Dave, and Angie Patient Right to Try Act”
Submitted to the Ohio House Health Committee, 136th General Assembly
April 29, 2025**

Dear Chair, Vice Chair, Ranking Member, and Members of the House Health Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to speak on House Bill 12, the “Jeff, Dave, and Angie Patient Right to Try Act.” This legislation is a critical step toward empowering Ohio patients, protecting medical autonomy, and ensuring access to potentially life-saving treatments. Citations and support for everything included here is available upon request.

My testimony shall touch on:

1. This bill is about preserving the doctor/patient relationship. As it stands, the doctor/patient relationship is subject to, as opposed to superior to, the doctor/hospital relationship, the doctor/payer relationship, and the doctor/regulator relationship. Before a doctor can decide what a patient can do, he or she must ensure insurance will approve it, the hospital is okay with it, and the regulators deem it appropriate.
2. The doctor is the only trained professional involved with a direct relationship with the patient and a full understanding of the situation. The doctor is also liable under the law if they do not do their job adequately.
3. Despite having less risk than the doctor or any knowledge of the patient others have more of a final say than either the doctor or the patient. We saw that clearly during COVID when so many were denied access to treatments like Ivermectin or HCQ – both of which have since been shown to be effective.
4. We even saw pharmacists overriding doctors’ judgment. A pharmacist may not know the patient, is untrained in diagnosing and treating disease, and wholly unqualified to determine the proper course of treatment in any given case. While their legal and ethical duty to provide guidance on the use of drugs is critical – their position in determining course of treatment is always subordinated to that of the doctor. You go to a doctor when you are sick – not a pharmacist.
5. Lives could have been saved if patients and doctors could have worked together to embrace real solutions but profit for non-medical professionals trumped access to safe and effective treatment for others.



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6. The hospital protocols during COVID caused death. There were numerous standards of care that were embraced despite them being against established medical evidence or even common sense – for example: putting a patient with declining oxygen levels on Midazolam (which depresses respiration) and then using the lower oxygen levels to justify putting the patient on forced air or a vent... both of which conveniently made the hospitals more money.
7. Patients and families fought and even brought legal action to try and remove their loved ones from these obviously horrific protocols but hospitals blocked them at every step. Further, when patients and doctors wanted to try safer and more effective treatments such as Ivermectin they were denied.
8. Doctors that spoke about alternative treatments – that we now know to be safe and effective – were attacked, lost their licenses, and frequently fired.
9. While many are only now realizing that Ivermectin and HCQ were safe and effective treatments for COVID – the facts were there early on. Unfortunately doctors that attempted to use their scientific expertise to care for their patients were punished for not playing along with the rigged system.
10. We can prevent this from happening again – if we pass this bill.

This bill will recenter the doctor/patient relationship – at least with regards to treatment choices – on doctors and patients. Never again will patients die because hospitals put profit over health and safety. The informed consent requirements ensure patients understand what is happening and the liability shields protect hospitals and pharmacists. The bill provides protection against lawsuits to many that do not even currently exist while still allowing patients to work with doctors – trained healthcare professionals – to determine what is best for them.

The only question I have about this bill is how anyone could oppose doctors and patients working together to determine the best course of treatment.

Thank you,

Tom Renz

Attorney