

Chair Schmidt, Vice Chair Deeter, Ranking Member Somani, and esteemed members of the House Health Committee,

I am writing to express my full support for House Bill 207, which designates June as “Male Wellness Month” and the third Monday of June as “Take Your Dad to the Doctor Day.” As someone who has always maintained a healthy lifestyle, I was recently diagnosed with heart failure. However, thanks to my commitment to regular doctor visits and proactive health monitoring, I was able to avoid invasive surgery.

This personal experience reinforced for me the critical importance of early detection and routine care, especially for men who often delay seeking medical attention until a crisis arises. House Bill 207 represents a significant step in changing the narrative around men’s health. By designating a month and a day to emphasize prostate exams, colonoscopies, mental health screenings, and proactive care, this legislation promotes a culture of wellness and encourages men to prioritize their health.

I strongly believe that everyone, particularly men, needs a health advocate in their lives, someone who encourages them to take care of themselves before issues escalate. “Take Your Dad to the Doctor Day” is an inspired and necessary initiative that will help shift mindsets and behaviors toward preventive care. Its impact will be felt not only by men but by families and communities across Ohio.

Sincerely,

Dr. Marvin Whitfield

CEO, Blue Force Mobile Training Team