

Chairwoman Jean Schmidt,

Thank you for allowing me to testify today. My name is Kathryn Craddock. I am a 1979 graduate of Ohio State University College of Pharmacy. My career has been in hospital pharmacy, first as a staff pharmacist and later as the Director of Pharmacy for three local hospitals. I am strongly opposed to HB 324.

The sponsors of this bill are using a debunked “study” as “proof” that mifepristone is unsafe. The FDA and many studies over decades have proven otherwise. It is unscientific to use patient-submitted reports or insurance databases to determine medication safety, especially when we have the FDA, an entire agency whose function it is to protect public health; any attempt to duplicate their effort is redundant and wasteful. This bill also tasks the state Director of Health with tracking and determining drugs that “cause one or more severe adverse effects in greater than five per cent of the drug's users” and keeping an updated list of these drugs on a public website. This would create an unreasonable, if not impossible administrative burden on the Ohio Department of Health and would not be meaningful or helpful to the public. As an example, I would submit that *any* cancer chemotherapy agent would not pass this test; should we discourage or even ban their use as well? It is important to note that mifepristone is also used in men and women for Cushing Syndrome and any attempt to limit its use would impact their treatment as well. This entire concept is preposterous and brings me to my next point.

The relationship between a patient and their health care provider is one of trust and care. The use of any drug carries the risk of adverse events, sometimes serious ones. The role of the healthcare provider is to present treatment options, and along with the patient carefully weigh the benefits and risks of each. This is individual. This is personal. This is private. There is no place for politics in the doctor’s office.

This bill is a thinly-veiled anti-abortion bill. This issue was settled in 2023 when a majority of Ohioans voted to enshrine the right to reproductive care

in the state's Constitution. Any attempt to override the will of the people is in opposition to the representative function of the state legislature and should be stopped. I am asking you to do just that.

I ask you to consider my testimony and vote NO on this dangerous and intrusive bill. Thank you again for the opportunity to testify.