

March 23, 2026

To: Chair Jean Schmidt,  
Vice Chair Deeter,  
Ranking Member **Andrea** White,  
and all members of the Health Committee

Thank you for allowing me to testify today. My name is Julia Sterkovsky. I was born in Ohio more than 65 years ago and now live in Fremont, Ohio. **I am strongly opposed to HB561.**

Vaccines save lives in every community across Ohio everyday, but HB561 will make it more dangerous to grow up in and grow old in Ohio. Ironically, I moved back to Ohio in 2023 to safeguard my health. Now, as the recipient of a transplant performed at an Ohio hospital, HB561 would allow preventable diseases to take hold and spread, making **Ohio a more dangerous place for me to live. Along with all the other residents of Ohio!**

Please use the power the people have given you to protect our health: Vote **NO** on this harmful bill. In fact, it would be best to not let it pass out of Health Committee at all.

Thank you again for the opportunity to testify.