

Chair Gross, Vice Chair Barhorst, Ranking Member Baker, and members of the House Medicaid Committee,

Thank you for allowing me to testify today. My name is Christopher. I am an Ohioan since birth, and currently in school at The Ohio State University College of Medicine. I strongly urge you to remove two troubling items from Ohio's state operating budget. Both could have devastating impacts on Ohio families who depend on Medicaid expansion for their healthcare coverage.

Specifically, I'm asking you to remove the following two items:

- Section 126.70 — This Medicaid Trigger Language could immediately end Medicaid expansion in Ohio if the federal government reduces its share of paying for the program's costs.
- Section 126.10 — Under this Federal Mirror Language, if the federal government pauses, suspends, or reduces funding for a federal program, Ohio could do the same to any similar state level program that uses federal funds.

We should be doing anything within our power to protect the health of the citizens of this *great* state. Sections 126.70 and 126.10 will be detrimental to the health of Ohioans across this state, and *directly* go against our duty as citizens and as those who work *for* the public.

I ask you to consider my testimony and remove these two harmful from Ohio's operating budget. By doing so, you would protect the 700,000+ Ohio children and families who depend on Medicaid expansion.

Thank you again for the opportunity to testify.