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**Olivia Farina**

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**Medicaid Committee Members**

1 Capital Square  
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Dear Medicaid Committee members,

I am submitting testimony in opposition to SB96, the policy to discontinue Medicaid expansion in Ohio. Medicaid recipients are the most vulnerable citizens of our state. Medicaid expansion covers individuals with income levels below 138% of the federal poverty level. People making less than \$20,000 a year are not “taking advantage of the system.” These are people with real needs for healthcare. In fact, in the beautiful Lake County that I call home, over 37,000 hardworking Ohioans depend upon Medicaid. By eliminating the Medicaid Expansion Program, or putting more work restrictions in the system, people will die.

I work in education and there is nothing more cruel, heartless, and unchristian than seeing our precious children go without medical care, all because some lawmakers decided their lives were not worthy of living. As a tax paying citizen, I am always more than happy to have my hard-earned dollars go towards the care and wellness of my fellow Ohioans. I don't want the taxes I pay going towards anything else but taking some of the burden that my neighbors may face. That is where I believe as an Ohioan my tax dollars should go; helping my neighbors stay healthy and safe.

Please vote no and show that you care about the people of Ohio; if you do not, we will remember those who vote yes when it comes for re-election. I know I will.

Thank you,

Olivia Farina, 7571 Hermitage Rd., Concord Twp., Ohio 44077