

Larry Rodriguez-Testimony

Medicaid Committee

Thursday, May 15, 2025

Chair Romanchuk, Vice Chair Huffman, Ranking member Liston and the rest of the Medicaid committee. My name is Larry Rodriguez and I am here to advocate for Ohioans like my friend Donna, who benefit from Medicaid expansion programs and rely on these programs to receive medical care for her Crohn's Disease. Due to her disease and the unpredictability of symptoms, it has been difficult for her to maintain employment. Her symptoms can flare up at any time which affect her ability to work. She has lost employment in the past because of her absences from work due to her illness.

Her disease affects her ability to work and make money for her and her family. I know very well that she would give anything to not have Crohn's disease so she can have a normal life without illness and to be able to work and enjoy her family.

I ask this committee to remember people like my friend Donna who depend on Medicaid expansion for medical care. Her life would be worse without the healthcare she needs.

Thank you for your time.