



To: Members of the Ohio House of Representatives, Health & Aging Committee

Fr: Tim Maglione, JD, Senior Director, Ohio State Medical Association
Monica Hueckel, Director, Ohio State Medical Association

Da: January 19, 2016

Re: Support for HB 290

On behalf of the 16,000 physician, resident and medical student members of the Ohio State Medical Association (OSMA), **we are writing to express our support for HB 290.**

This legislation would permit a physician to treat a terminally ill patient with a drug that is not approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration and would permit a drug manufacturer to provide such a drug to the patient or physician. We believe that this bill gives providers and terminally-ill patients an important exercise in medical control, and while investigational treatments are no guarantee, they are another opportunity at extending or saving a patient's life, especially when other treatment options have been exhausted or proved ineffective.

Terminally-ill patients should have the right to choose to attempt non-FDA approved treatments as how their advanced care unfolds should be of their own will and choice, and they deserve the dignity of being allow to try these treatment methods. We do not see any detriment in allowing this valuable chance to give physicians another tool with which to treat their patients. This legislation puts this crucial decision back into the hands of those most closely involved with the situation, and of those it affects most directly and personally.

The OSMA appreciates the opportunity to be meaningful contributors to the legislative process and **we offer our support for HB 290.** Please contact us with any questions.