

To whom it may concern,

I am writing in opposition of the proposed SB 311. As a dual MD/MPH student, a clinician and a public health professional, I am invested in both the health of my patients and the health of our community. COVID-19 poses a serious, very real threat to Ohio. I recently worked in the Ohio State ICU, where over half of our patients were COVID-19 positive. These patients were placed on a ventilator to assist with breathing for weeks at a time.

As the COVID-19 pandemic seems to be entering a second surge wave across the US, now is a time to strengthen our public health response, NOT to tear it down. I strongly oppose SB 311 and would ask our representatives to consider whether this bill is in the best interest of Ohioans, and whether this bill would honor those Ohioans already lost in the pandemic.

Austin Oslock, MPH