



October 13, 2021

Dear Chair Stein, Ranking Member Lepore – Hagan, and members of the House Commerce and Labor Committee:

My name is Michael Swoape. For the past ten years, I have operated One4Silver selling china, crystal, and flatware on eBay and other online marketplaces.

As a resident of Summit County, Ohio and proud operator of an online business, I urge you to OPPOSE HB 272 as it is unnecessarily burdensome and discriminatory against small businesses like mine. While originally intended to protect consumers, the bill instead targets legitimate Ohio businesses and sellers who use online marketplaces. Worse, the bill mandates the public disclosure of personal information on every product we list on a marketplace.

As a result of the troubling disclosure and verification requirements, HB 272 needlessly risks my privacy by exposing personal information to the world and favors large retailers who do not need an online marketplace to connect with their customers. At a time when the economy has struggled amidst the pandemic, our business has been able to find success reaching customers online. Instead of moving forward with policies that hurt Ohio small businesses and create uncalled-for privacy risks, the Legislature should focus on enabling our economic recovery.

For these reasons, I ask you to OPPOSE HB 272.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael T. Swoape". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Michael T. Swoape,
Chief Operating Officer

