

February 23, 2022

Dear Chairman Brinkman, Vice Chairman Lampton, and Ranking Member Miranda:

Thank you for this opportunity to provide written testimony in favor of H.B. 448. I am a healthy seventy-seven-year-old woman who has been blind all of her life. Thankfully I do not yet take multiple medications. However, my husband is ten years older than I, and he takes a number of medications. Luckily he can still manage the complex schedule of pills every day. But I am aware that at any point I could be faced with the need to supervise the times and amounts of his medications. We live in a retirement community, but residents who do not have a way of reliably managing their medications wind up in short order in assisted living.

The local Discount DrugMart does not offer a medication identification system to its customers. If H.B. 448 were law in Ohio, I would not face the problem that is now hanging over my head, and of course my own medical situation could change at any time, leaving me with medications to manage for myself without pharmacy support.

In our retirement community many people are dealing with diminished vision and complex regimens of medication. A number have given up and moved to assisted living because they cannot be confident in their ability to keep their medications straight. This move with its accompanying loss of independence and dignity could be avoided if they could just identify their medications and be reminded of dosage amounts and times.

Access to the information available to the reading public was supposed to be guaranteed to print-disabled people by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, but it is a right still denied to most people with restricted vision. I urge you to vote this bill onto the House floor and we hope on its way to passage.

Thank you for considering my point of view.

Very truly yours,  
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