

Testimony by Andrea Hand. Support of Sb 22.

Madam Chairman Roegner, Vice Chairman Mcolley, Ranking Member Craig, and honorable members of the Government Oversight and Reform Committee.

I am testifying today in support of Sb 22, as an Ohio resident I'm deeply concerned about the actions being taken under the state of emergency. I have seen and felt the direct affects in my own life.

I'm a mother of two and have a baby due in a month. Under the state of emergency it has been difficult to receive support and care during pregnancy. My husband isn't permitted in my appointments or ultrasounds when needed. This affects us both and has made for a much stressful environment. Several other mothers have reached out and shared their own pregnancy and birth experiences as well. One of my friends went into labor and was made to wait in the hospital lobby. They required her to receive a second covid test to enter the facility. She was not sick and had already gone through required screening. She ended up having her baby in a cold and highly traveled hallway. This was not only unsafe and uncomfortable for her, but her child as well.

Last months a friend of mine's father fell and broke his hip. He was living on his own, working, and in decent health for his age. He was placed in a hospital and nobody was allowed in to support him. Three weeks recovering alone and not given the treatments he needed. He ended up developing sepsis and his health declined. His family could see him only because he was on his death bed. He left behind his grandchildren and daughters. These kind of tragedies are endless and should never happen. I could share thousands more but, these should be enough. Human rights are being violated, suicides, drug overdose, business closing forever, jobs lost, and domestic violence. Children are behind in education and social skills.

We need checks and balances restored in Ohio's government, we need all people considered and our constitution respected. Protect the most vulnerable and let people continue with their lives. March is one month away, two weeks to flatten the curve has turned into a year.

SB 22 will restore due process in Ohio and civil liberties. We will never again have the fate of 11 million people in the hands of two. This is vital to our state and the future of our family's.

This pandemic has shown how quickly biased and agenda can affect our leaders. The constitution is our highest law and should always be protected by those we elect into office. If we are to keep America the amazing country it is this is vital. We need to be by the side of our loved ones in the hospital or during death. Mother's need their support system during pregnancy and birth. Many have been robbed of those things and it's by far going to affect us all forever. Please restore Ohio's government and due process!

Thank you!

Andrea Hand.