

Chair Roegner, Vice Chair McColley, Ranking Member Craig, and the Honored Members of the government oversight and reform committee,

My name is Carissa Kirksey Rohal, thank you for allowing me to provide written testimony.

As a direct result of the overreaching orders issued in the last year by the Governor and Health Director, my mental health has suffered, as well as that of my family and my friends. There is no longer an escape to let the cares of the world be forgotten and to de-stress from the pressures of day to day life. The cancellation of festivals and gatherings I look forward to, along with the restrictions of "non-essential" businesses has severely impacted my mental well being. The face mask mandate, and the general overwhelming air of fear and/or anger of the public because of the restrictions, has even affected my will to accomplish needed errands and tasks, further impacting my mental health. My ability to work has been affected. There are many friends I have not seen in over eleven months. Family relations have been strained. Friends' livelihoods have suffered, particularly those in the restaurant industry and in public school employment. Small businesses I enjoy patronizing have been struggling. Freedoms of businesses have been taken away with the threat of fines and closures. Neighbor has been turned against neighbor, to turn in or shame anyone who dares to defy the regime. Under the oppression of the last year, all joy in life has been taken away. I have never before had such mental lows in all my life on this Earth. I feel so trapped.

Ohio needs checks and balances by giving the legislature the ability to rescind these orders. I humbly ask that you please vote "YES" on SB22. Please help bring freedom back to the Ohio people.

~ Cariss Kirksey Rohal
Creston, Ohio