

I am providing written testimony today in favor of SB 22 as an Ohio resident deeply concerned about courses of action being taken under the current emergency powers and the dire effects it is having on all of us, with no evidence being presented that the measures put in place have had benefits that outweigh the costs we continue to pay.

My freshman son has been denied the education he deserves, along with all the other children who are being forced to remain out of the classroom full time. He is missing a critical time in his education and social development. He has spent less than 25 percent of his time in the classroom than he would have on a normal school year. In the month of February he will only have been in school 2 days so far, the rest remote. He will never get that back and will be behind other students who have been in person education since the beginning of the school year in our state and others.

Our superintendent follows whatever recommendation the Franklin County Department of Health supports. Based on their recommendations this led us to more virtual days than in person education, hybrid models with only part of the student body attending, lack of normal social functions (no football games, dances, plays, band performances).

My senior last year missed his final performance on the theatre stage as Oz, his prom, his graduation ceremony with all of his friends. It was difficult then however we were told this was to flatten a curve, that was almost 12 months ago. This has no end unless you pass this bill. The governor is showing he has no intention of lifting the intense measures he laid on our state for the past 11 months.

This is why one man/woman should not be allowed total control with no oversight, no checks or balances. This is what happens when one person is in charge. This is not how our country is supposed to be.

We the people are supposed to have a voice. Currently the unelected bureaucrats have more power and control over our lives, than we do.

Our businesses, our economy, our social and emotional well-being and the future of our children are on the line. Our state cannot thrive under the continued oppressive and unopposed orders of an overreaching Governor.

Please stand up and protect our personal liberties and the future of our state by voting YES on SB 22  
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Thank you,  
Laurie Schulze