

Chair Roegner, Vice Chair McColley, ranking member Craig, and the Honored member of the Government Oversight and Reform Committee...

My name is Allison Scott. Thank you for allowing me to provide testimony.

My grave concerns of government overreach began in March 2020 when the Governor starting shutting down small businesses. (As the large chains and box stores didn't seem effected). I, as an independent hair stylist was included in these shutdowns for a couple of months.

I was trying to understand the magnitude of the situation that was causing these decisions. Even though concerned and confused, I still complied to help "flatten the curve" and allow time for our medical system to prepare and not be overwhelmed. This is what was asked of us. As I continued to learn about this virus and how to follow the data on the Ohio Covid dashboard, it seemed as though we should be getting back to normal. But instead, more and more mandates kept going on with mask, curfews, and now the propagandizing of the new vaccines. Businesses fearful of fines or shutdowns felt forced to overlook medical exemptions for certain people, which is causing even more divide and discriminations.

I believe the Governor press conferences on HOW the information is being portrayed is fear based, non transparent, and misleading to the public. I'm seeing way more harm than good as Ohio economy, citizens, and small businesses are suffering tremendously. It saddens me the amount of depression, addictions, suicides, the separation of families, the elderly suffering alone, people losing their livelihoods that they've spend years or even generations to build due to these mandates that weren't even passed through our legislative process. This is NOT the American Way.

The "cure" can't be worse than the "disease". Yet, that is exactly what is happening! Instead of instilling hope, unity, transparency, DATA, for people to make informed decisions for THEIR health and situation, we have someone dictating those decisions to us. This has to stop. SB 311 is another example of the Governor's power trip, vetoing a bill that was passed by the legislative process.

I've made decisions to pursue a new direction in my life that I was super excited about, but am losing hope and motivation for my future endeavor by the hindrance of our Governor's restrictions. I am SUPER concerned about where this could lead in regards to a potential mandate of the vaccine if we don't restore the balance of power in our government. There has been enough adverse reactions to the new, not approved vaccine that again are unfortunately not being discussed or are being silenced. It's not right for someone to not have all the information to make an informed decision on their own health with regards of injecting something into their own bodies. It's so important to maintain individual health decisions between doctor/patient relationship and keep the government out of those personal and private decisions.

My testimony is not so much of a personal one as it is for the community as a whole with the destruction that had occurred due to these restrictions, along with the loss of personal liberty. I have high hopes that if this bill gets passed that the balance of powers can be restored and we can renew the legislative process to operate as designed by the constitution.

Thank again!

Allison Scott (London, OH)

