



Testimony before the
Senate Health Committee

Senate Resolution 10

June 15, 2021

Chairman Huffman, ranking member Antonio and members of the Senate Health Committee, the Association of Ohio Health Commissioners is pleased to offer this testimony in support of Senate Resolution 10, which honors lives lost to COVID-19 in Ohio. The Association of Ohio Health Commissioners (AOHC), is the state association representing Ohio's 113 local health departments.

As local health department leaders and staff, we believe it is critically important to remember the more than 20,000 Ohioans who have lost their lives to COVID-19. Virtually every Ohioan has experienced the death of a loved one or friend from this disease. As we begin to emerge from the worldwide pandemic, we must remember and honor those lost here at home. Our collective loss and grief need to be acknowledged, recognized, and valued.

At the local level, we have heard countless agonizing stories from the family members of those lost and witnessed the range of emotions – from shock and disbelief, to anger and outrage, to sadness and acceptance. Not since World War II has Ohio experienced this level of loss from a single event.

AOHC is very grateful to the Ohio General Assembly for considering this resolution and acting expeditiously to pass it. Thank you!