

Michele Young HB 371 4th Senate Health Committee Hearing Testimony - May 18th.

Senate Health Committee Chair Huffman and Members of the committee, thank you all for allowing me to speak today and for all your work and consideration in bringing HB 371 before the committee for a vote today. With your help, HB 371 has the opportunity to save thousands of Ohio women's lives and prevent the suffering they and their families face from breast cancer.

My name is Michele Young, and I am a stage 4 breast cancer survivor. Like half of the women over forty in Ohio, I have dense breasts, which means that routine mammogram screenings failed to detect the breast cancer that was growing for years undetected. You see, dense breast tissue and breast cancer both appear white on a mammogram screening so for the radiologist trying to detect the cancer, it is like finding a snowflake in a snowstorm and missed half the time.

The bill before you today, HB 371- the breast cancer bill, is economical, effective, and lifesaving. With your help, all Ohio women can access an annual breast cancer screening, prevent deaths with advanced screenings for women with dense breasts, receive innovative screenings with 21st-century technology, and be informed of the risk faced with dense breasts.

HB 371 is a bipartisan bill that passed the House with 89 votes in favor and zero opposition testimony in both the House and Senate. The breast cancer bill is universally supported by the entire Ohio medical community including the Ohio Hospital Association, the Ohio State James Cancer Center, the University of Cincinnati Medical Center, the Cleveland Clinic, and many others.

I ask that you please pass HB 371 out of committee today and work with us and Senate President Matt Huffman to pass this lifesaving bill before summer recess. With your support of this historic legislation, you will be credited with saving the lives of thousands of Ohio women, mothers, wives, sisters, and friends. You will save their families immense suffering from this fatal disease. And you will bring us one step closer to curing cancer. On behalf of Ohio women, please vote yes on the breast cancer bill- HB 371.

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