



STATE SENATOR
CHARLETA B. TAVARES

15TH DISTRICT

Sponsor Testimony
Presented by: Senator Charleta B. Tavares
Senate Bill 302
Health, Human Services and Medicaid Committee
Senator David Burke, Chair
Tuesday June 26, 2018

Good morning Chairman Burke and members of the Health, Human Services and Medicaid Committee; I appreciate the opportunity to provide sponsor testimony on Senate Bill 302. Senate Bill 302 would task the Legislative Service Commission (LSC) and the Joint Committee on Agency Rule Review (JCARR) with conducting an analysis of all bills and rules to determine whether the proposed legislation or rules would have a positive, adverse or neutral impact on the health of Ohioans and on the attainment of health equity in the state.

Health & Equity in All Policies (HEiAP) is derived from the World Health Organization's Health in All Policies (HiAP) initiative. It is an innovative approach to creating and

implementing public policies that systematically take into account the health implications of policy decisions. By emphasizing the need to collaborate across sectors to achieve common health goals, HiAP is further defined as a change in the systems that determine how decision-makers in local, state, and federal governments ensure that policies have neutral or beneficial impacts on the determinants of health. By broadening the scope of this concept through the addition of “equity” as a component, this policy will provide the State with a more critical look at the overall context in which Ohio’s vulnerable populations are impacted by the social determinates of health such as education, housing, safe neighborhoods, healthy foods, transportation, employment, etc.

According to economic research done by the Prevention Institute, investments in activities that were assessed for their impact on health and equity such as creating physically active communities and increasing access to healthy foods could result in a large return on investment in just a few years. With Ohio ranking 47th nationally on a composite measure of health value, adopting this

common sense approach would help the State make great strides in securing better health outcomes for all of Ohio's citizens.

Chairman Burke and members of the Committee, I appreciate your attention to this issue and I respectfully request your favorable consideration and passage of Senate Bill 302. Thank you and I am happy to respond to questions from the committee.