June 1, 2020

My name is Sara Gleason. I am a resident and constituent of the great state of Ohio, a mother and military spouse, and I am writing to share my support for HB 624.

As part of their mission to support the public health, it is the duty of public health officials and the Ohio Department of Health to provide accurate, up-to-date, robustly researched data to Ohioans; particularly when data is used to direct policy and make decisions that have impact on the lives and livelihoods.

I find it upsetting that the ODH would need a legislative nudge to do what is right and best practice. And that is: provide transparent access to data that is comprehensive and accurate. The reporting should include daily data in addition to cumulative data. It should also include facts about case demographics and important details about co-morbidities. When these details, that we can see readily reported by health departments in other states, are omitted it is hard not to feel it is because there is an agenda at play. I cannot imagine what that would be, but certainly, right now the picture presented is keeping Ohioans in fear. And citizens, therefore, are not adequately equipped to inform their decisions with all of the data available.

When we do the research ourselves we often find that what we learn runs counter to what we have been told. And that, too, is a serious problem. For example, data from around the world is emerging and data from the CDC itself is revealing a lower infection rate than we see reported every day here in OH. It is important to share Ohio's data - in its entirety - AND share the picture of what is being learned and discovered about SARS-CoV-2 in the country and globally. We also have not been presented with current or adequate data and science with regard to asymptomatic infection, treatment and immunity support (through lifestyle and nutrition), or on the impacts of prolonged measures to mitigate the infection.

I stand strongly with legislation that requires the ODH to do their job in good faith and good facts. I support HB 624 in its efforts to attain the full story and all the data for Ohio.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Sara Gleason