Testimony of Donna Jo Kazee Proponent, HB 624 Ohio House State and Local Government Committee June 1, 2020

Dear Chair Wiggam, Vice Chair Stephens, Ranking Minority Member Kelly, and Honorable Members of the State and Local Government Committee:

I respectfully request you vote YES for House Bill 624. Public health emergencies should require the accurate, complete, and unbiased reporting of important and continuously updated data to everyone affected. This helps to not only inform but to also improve public confidence in the level of threat of the emergency and the measures being taken. Throughout this current pandemic, many of us have felt confused and misled by the information given about the virus, the associated "disease", infection and fatality rates overall and in various populations, and how testing was being done and reported. Representative Grendell's excellent bill, House Bill 624, provides for all of the basic data to be gathered and reported in a manner that gives a better, complete picture of the course of the infection and the risk factors. I cannot imagine any reasons why this bill would be opposed, considering the far-reaching and significant measures which have been imposed and which have suspended the rights and livelihoods of many Ohioans. Thank you for considering this bill, which would be an excellent beginning to checks and balances in all of this.

Sincerely,

Donna Jo Kazee 4643 Teller Street Columbus, Ohio 43228 937-603-7644