

HB618 Proponent Testimony

Adam Talbot

House State and Local Government Committee

November 15, 2020

To Chairman Wiggam, Vice-Chair Stephens, Ranking Member Kelly
and Honorable Members of the Ohio House State and Local Government Committee

Thank you for this opportunity to provide written testimony regarding HB618. I am a **proponent of HB618** because the Ohio Department of Health has too much control over the life, health, and subsequently, the liberties of Ohio citizens. No single government official should have unilateral control over Ohio citizens, especially an unelected government official. It is crucial that this power is removed from the Ohio Department of Health and dispersed among the elected representatives through HB618. As our elected representatives, you are the ones we have chosen to represent us. Yet our current law removes all power from our elected representatives leaving us without a voice. It has been 8 months since Governor Dewine's first order. These initial orders limited our freedoms and have returned zero results. We have been under a mask mandate for a number of months, but have nothing to show from this order other than the continued loss of freedom through additional orders that recycle the same ineffective policies. It is time for us to get off this merry-go-round of failed policy and include others in the decision making process before we lose our freedoms permanently. I ask you not only to pass this bill for the current citizens of Ohio but for those generations who would come after us. We have been entrusted with the gift of freedom, and it is our duty to ensure that gift is preserved for these future generations.

Sincerely,

Adam Talbot