

November 15, 2020

I am very concerned about the ongoing and increasing abuses of power and lack of accountability by Governor Mike Dewine. By any reading of the Ohio constitution, Ohio Revised Code, and regulations, they clearly show a gross overreach of power. Last week our Governor decided that he has not caused enough damage to our people, our state, and our economy. He has destroyed our families, destroyed our businesses and the economy, destroyed our mental health, and now is doubling down. His actions are beyond the scope and we all must draw a line in the sand. He has extended the state of emergency and thus his emergency powers, indefinitely. That is outrageous, illegal, and action is demanded. Governor Dewine has blatantly and brazenly disregarded the law cited in his own orders. Ohio Revised Code 119.03G, which is referenced on the health orders, specifically states "Except as provided in division (G)(2) of this section, the emergency rule, amendment, or rescission shall become invalid at the end of the one hundred twentieth day it is in effect." This means the emergency order expired in July. After that, it cannot be reissued even if it is altered without going through the normal lawmaking, legislative process. At no time do I or many other Ohioans find it acceptable that our governor continues to reward himself with MORE unaccountable power outside the law. At no time is it acceptable that a governor or executive political office be given or be allowed to take power that is unchecked, indisputable, un-appealable, and, especially, open-ended. Unchecked indefinite orders by any body- executive, legislative, or judicial- cannot be allowed to occur and be sustained. This is simply not legal. I completely support passing HB-618 and any other proposed legislation to restore the balance of government and rights of Ohioans. This is no longer a tenable or tolerable situation, and I along with many other Ohioans demand this governor be legally restrained immediately.

Thank you,

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