

Chairman Wiggam, Vice Chairman Stephens, Ranking Member Kelly, and members of the State and Local Government Committee: Thank you for allowing me proponent testimony for HB 618.

My name is Jennifer Saling and I like the rest of Ohio am waiting in fear for the next governor's announcement. Each time he appears on TV I am fearful of how his choices will affect my family. Not just those living in my house hold, but my extended family as well.

If he should close the state again many of my family members will no longer have a job. And not just for the time he has the state locked down. They will not have a job to go back to at all. The companies they work for will close permanently!

He needs to be stopped. Closing the state and putting people out of a job, especially at this time of the year will be catastrophic. Suicide and drug overdoses are always high around the holidays to begin with. Throw on top of that the year we have already had and winter is looking pretty bleak. Add a second closure of the state and for most of us there is no coming back. We are just done.

Mike Dewine has only been interested in one thing through this whole entire process, and that's making a name for himself. And most would agree he has done that. But if he should close the state again the name he could then have for him self would be 'family annihilator'. Because that's what he will do to almost every family who is still struggling to get back on their feet after the first shut down.

They will lose everything they have worked so hard for through their lives. Children will have no Christmas, parents will have no job, no health insurance, and no way to take care of their families. And with no end in sight people will begin to lose hope.

On July 23 Dewine appeared on TV and told the entire state, if we come together for 4-6 weeks we can beat this. 4-6 weeks of wearing mask and we will be well past the worst of this covid pandemic. Hear it is four months later and he has reissued his mandate, but with harsher consequences.

Now he is talking about closing the state again for 4-6 weeks. You have to wonder what he really means by that. When his first mandate was worded the same way, and after four months he is still not giving up on that one.

Someone needs to stand up for the little people that Dewine is trampling on while pushing these mandates down our throats. We are not pawns, and this is not just a game to us, this is our lives!

Please stand up for those of us that are not affluent enough to run in the same circles as the people who have Dewines ear. We deserve a chance to be recognized as more than just the ones without a voice.

Please stand up for not only my family, but the many others who hold their breath each time Dewine speaks, and we wait to see how he going to try and ruin our lives this time.

