

HB618 Proponent Testimony

Michelle Eddy

House State and Local Government Committee

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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 I strongly believe that the governor of Ohio and the unelected director of the Ohio Department of Health should not have limitless control over the lives of the citizens of Ohio. Over the last eight months, the governor has failed to uphold the constitution and defend our inalienable rights. The governor's gross overreach of power has caused anxiety, depression, increased thoughts of suicide, emotional and financial stress, unemployment, business closures, loss of livelihood, increased drug and alcohol addiction, increased domestic violence and child abuse, just to name a few. It is absolutely vital to remove this level of power from the unelected director of the ODH and put it back in the hands of the people, via the elected representatives through HB618. It is imperative that the Ohio Revised Code be corrected in order to give Ohioans the right to decide for themselves how to best take care of their health and safety. We have been under a mask mandate for almost four months and coronavirus cases continue to rise, proving that masks are doing absolutely nothing to slow the spread. Masks are dehumanizing and completely useless. Many people, due to certain health conditions, cannot wear a mask and they have, unfortunately, had to endure public shaming, bullying, and verbal and physical attacks. The governor has considerably exceeded his authority and unconstitutionally mandated ineffective policies, resulting in the perpetual loss of freedom. It is crucial to include our elected representatives in the decision-making process to regain our constitutional freedoms and the rights of generations to come. As our elected representatives, it is your responsibility to defend the liberties of Ohioans. I urge you to vote YES on HB618.

Sincerely,

Michelle Eddy

Plain City, Ohio

