

Good Morning,

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

I volunteer in the running of a not-for-profit public charity. Under the present Covid mandates issued by Governor Dewine and Director Himes, we have had to shut down all of our community programs due to lack of attendance. People are frightened to attend our programs, even though we have been in full compliance with all of the Covid health orders that apply to us, issued by the state. This has ruined us financially and we have yet to see how we will come back from this to continue our much-needed offering.

In addition, I have been out of work since the outbreak and am finding that no one will hire me in the present environment. The businesses I apply to for employment are laying people off, even if they are able to work from home. So, the impact of these mandates have ruined my livelihood.

- I am not sick and none of my neighbors are sick with Covid.
- Several of us have continually visited local and regional emergency rooms and hospitals and find them to be mostly empty. In fact, I know ER workers who have been laid off because activity in the ER is so slow.
- The Governor has not presented the public with an analysis of how he has substantiated counts for infections and deaths within the state. My feeling is that all the numbers we're being told with respect to taking counties red and purple, must be reviewed by an independent committee with no conflicts of interest, to get at what the real numbers are and how they have been derived.
- The Governor states that he is conferring with experts and hospital leaders with respect to the decisions he's making, but does not name who these people are. In such a state of affairs, the public has the right to know the absolute sources of the information that the Governor is acting on and, before we give up any more of our Constitutional rights, we should be provided ample means to comment on these orders, changes to them and revision in the revised code that impact – so that there can be open and scientific debate where all sides are considered with respect to plans for mandates and health response under Covid.
- It appears that the Governor feels that he is personally responsible for deaths during this period, for which he has not provided evidence as to the actual, primary cause of these deaths. The Governor is not responsible for any person's death, particularly when there is much evidence (which I am happy to provide you with) that shows that most deaths attributed to Covid are actually due to serious underlying conditions that people had for an extended period of time, none of which is connected to the virus.

It is for these reasons that I urge you to pass HB 618. I feel it is time for us as a state to step back and reassess our entire response to SARS-COV2, allowing time for the house and senate to open hearings from health professionals in the state who are treating people with this infection successfully with inexpensive, alternative therapies that really do show that a vaccine is unnecessary to combat this infection.

Most importantly, please work to preserve my right to refuse, my right to bodily autonomy under the Constitution during these times.

Sincerely,

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