

Tim Regula
10400 Justus Ave. SW
Beach City, OH 44608

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House State and Local Government Committee
77 South High Street
13th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215

Via Email

Committee Members:

I have served as Chairman of the Stark County District Advisory Council for the past 20 years and have been a township trustee for 27 years. I am submitting this written testimony to voice my concern about HB 463.

In Stark County, the current system works very well and the District Advisory Council (DAC) conducts its business and exercises its authority as intended under the Ohio Revised Code. I believe the DAC should be retained because:

1. In Stark County, we have a mix of rural and urban townships, cities, and villages. The Board of Health Members should be selected by the representatives of all the political subdivisions, large and small, served by the Board of Health. It should not be limited to just one of the political subdivisions served by the Board of Health.
2. All political subdivisions are served by the Board of Health and contribute inside millage to support the operations of the health district. For this reason, they should retain the current authorities vested in the DAC. The County Commissioners contribute no inside millage to the operations of the local health district.
3. The appointment of Board of Health Members and budget approval are already public processes, prescribed in law and conducted by locally elected officials. Local public health is actively working with the bill sponsor to identify ways to make these processes more transparent to the public. Simply consolidating the appointing/approval body to the County Commissioners does not increase accountability of the Board of Health nor the transparency of the processes and decisions of the Board of Health.

In summary, I believe the current system works well. Opportunities for improvement are always welcome, but an overhaul is not needed. Thank you for the opportunity to provide my testimony.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tim Regula". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Tim" and last name "Regula" clearly legible.

Tim Regula
Chairman, Stark County District Advisory Council
Trustee, Sugar Creek Township