Laura McShane 3421 Virginia Ave Cleveland OH 44109

October 9, 2023 Dear Chairman Peterson and Ranking Member Humphrey,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on SB 158. I reside in Cleveland and am writing to oppose the passage of Senate Bill 158, a law that would prohibit participatory budgeting in Ohio.

As a Cleveland voter, I deserve the opportunity to vote on issues that matter most to me. Issue 38 in Cleveland is one issue that is important. The process of participatory budgeting has been used in hundreds of cities around the United States as a form of civic education and engagement for residents to work with elected officials and city government to determine how their taxpayer dollars are spent.

People deserve to have a voice about how their community is served by Cleveland City Council.

SB 158 prevents localities from addressing local problems. I strongly oppose SB 158.

Sincerely,

Laura McShane