

Chair Lipps, Vice Chair Stewart, and members of the House Public Health Policy Committee,

My name is Elizabeth Milks (she/her), and I am a first-year medical student at Ohio University's Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine. I am a constituent of Ada (45810) and am writing **in support** of House Bill 89 "Regards intimate examination of anesthetized, unconscious patient". As a medical student, I recognize that there is no greater ethical violation than knowingly infringing on a patient's autonomy, and as a woman, no greater vulnerability than receiving a pelvic exam, irrespective of the individual performing the examination. Without this bill, patients, especially those with uteruses, may continue to be subjects of unwarranted exploration for only the benefit of "practice" for students. If presented with the opportunity to perform an intimate exam on an anesthetized patient, I would vehemently refuse; there is no reason for the patient to be unaware of the medical treatment they are receiving and would be deemed unethical in any other respect. This bill is absolutely necessary for maintaining patient autonomy and for cultivating future physicians who view their patients as people rather than practice.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Elizabeth J Milks". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "E" and "M".

Elizabeth J Milks