



Ohio State Medical Association
Bringing physicians together for a healthier Ohio



OHIO HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION



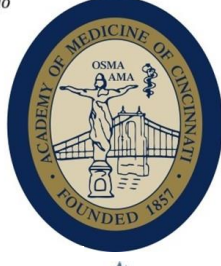
OHIO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



OHIO COUNCIL OF RETAIL MERCHANTS
1922-2022



Ohio Children's Hospital Association
Saving, protecting and enhancing children's lives



ACADEMY OF MEDICINE OF CINCINNATI
OSMA AMA
FOUNDED 1857



Ohio Business Roundtable



NATIONWIDE CHILDREN'S
When your child needs a hospital, everything matters.™



The Ohio Manufacturers' ASSOCIATION



MOUNT CARMEL
A Member of Trinity Health



MEDICAL SOCIETY
Montgomery County
EST. 1849



Ohio Chapter
INCORPORATED IN OHIO



OHIO ACADEMY OF FAMILY PHYSICIANS



Premier Health



omda
THE OHIO SOCIETY FOR POST-ACUTE AND LONG-TERM CARE MEDICINE



American Academy of Pediatrics
DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN™



Cleveland Clinic



AMCNO
The Academy of Medicine of Cleveland & Northern Ohio
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OHIO OSTEOPATHIC ASSOCIATION



OGS



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY
WEXNER MEDICAL CENTER



Ohio ACEP
American College of Emergency Physicians
Advocacy | Education | Leadership



Akron Children's Hospital



University Hospitals



Cincinnati Children's
changing the outcome together



ACP Ohio Chapter
American College of Physicians
Leading Internal Medicine, Improving Lives



OHIO PSYCHIATRIC PHYSICIANS ASSOCIATION



MetroHealth



OhioHealth



PROMEDICA RUSSELL J. EB Eid CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL
Formerly ProMedica Toledo Children's Hospital



OHIO STATE CORONERS ASSOCIATION



Ohio Ophthalmological Society



OPTA Ohio Physical Therapy Association



BON SECOURS MERCY HEALTH



HLA
HEALTHCARE LEADERS ASSOCIATION



OHIO ACOFP



OHIO CHAPTER
AMERICAN COLLEGE OF CARDIOLOGY®



The Center for Health Affairs



Columbus Medical Association & Affiliates
Columbus Medical Association Foundation | Physicians CareConnection | COTS | Physicians Leadership Academy



ACOG
The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists



ODA
OHIO DERMATOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION



OSPMR
Ohio Society of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation



Ohio Association of Rheumatology



UHealth



TriHealth
Be seen. Be heard. Be healed.



ONA OHIO NURSES ASSOCIATION
THE VOICE OF OHIO'S REGISTERED NURSES



University Hospitals Rainbow Babies & Children's



OHIO ORTHOPAEDIC SOCIETY
FOUNDED IN 1930



PROMEDICA



Ohio Society of Pathologists



ACS Chapters | Ohio



100 YEARS AMERICAN COLLEGE OF SURGEONS
Inspiring Quality. Highest Standards. Better Outcomes.



dayton children's



Ohio Hematology Oncology Society

To: Members of the Ohio House Health Provider Services Committee
Da: December 10, 2024
Re: HB 319

On behalf of the above organizations, we write today in opposition to House Bill 319, with grave concerns about its potentially devastating impact on public health in Ohio. Our members are extremely troubled by this legislation as it would discourage vaccination against numerous communicable diseases, and therefore pose serious risks to the health and lives of Ohioans across the state, including (but not limited to) our most vulnerable such as babies, young children, elderly Ohioans, and Ohioans who are disabled, immune-compromised, or living with long-term or chronic health conditions.

America has spent decades building up immunity against diseases through widespread vaccination, and by doing so, we have been saving lives for many years. Vaccines preserve our freedoms by allowing us to live our daily lives without having to worry about much risk of contracting many truly serious and heartbreaking diseases that once ran rampant through the American public annually before vaccines targeting them were developed. Our achievements in public health and advancements in vaccine technology mean that many of these diseases are now much rarer, so the public likely hears much less about the devastation and suffering they cause. Perhaps they are now more likely to hear about perceived risks related to vaccines than the suffering caused by the actual diseases from which vaccines protect us. However, as a wealth of evidence and research shows, for the vast majority of people, the benefits of vaccination far outweigh the negligible risk.

Employers are required to provide a safe workplace for their staff based on guidelines from the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA). This legislation would take away the rights of Ohio business owners and operators to set requirements that prevent employees from posing direct safety threats to each other and other individuals in the workplace. Businesses have a responsibility to assess risk of disease exposure and develop a plan to protect their clientele and staff from health and safety hazards. HB 319 would eliminate the ability of the employer to consider the unique circumstances of their business operations and implement health and safety precautions they deem most appropriate to carry out their services and protect the well-being of all involved.

All Ohioans benefit from the crucial protections afforded to us by vaccines every single day, and HB 319 represents a real threat to this protection. The risk cannot be understated, and we emphasize that to risk one of our greatest assets in infectious disease prevention would not only make future outbreaks and epidemics more likely, but basically inevitable. We believe that we must work together to keep people safe and healthy, and HB 319 runs counter to that mission.

Thank you for your consideration of our concerns. Please contact us should you have any questions.