

March 23, 2021

Emma Caradone
Director of Stakeholder Relations
Office of Ohio Governor Mike DeWine
Email: Emma.Caradone@governor.ohio.gov

Dear Governor DeWine:

The purpose of this letter is to urge you to veto SB 22. Of great concern to our hospital is that this bill may further decentralize the decision making process and slow efforts to protect the citizens of Ohio at a time when a rapid and evidence based response is most needed.

As you know, the mission of St. Vincent Charity Medical Center is to serve all people, especially the underserved in our community. It is well documented, that COVID 19 has had a disproportionate effect on communities of color in Cleveland, across the State and throughout the Country. These are our patients, the marginalized and the poor.

All too often, we witness legislation that knowingly or unknowingly further marginalizes those of us on the fringes of society. As written, we are concerned that SB 22 may have that same impact.

Thank you in advance for your time and extraordinary leadership during these unprecedented times.

Sincerely,

Janice G. Murphy, M.S.N., Fr President and CEO

St. Vincent Charity Medical Center

Cleveland, Ohio 44115