



Corporate Office

1077 Gorge Boulevard
Akron, Ohio 44310
tel 330-375-3000
summahealth.org

March 23, 2021

The Honorable Mike DeWine
Governor of Ohio
Riffe Center, 30th Floor
77 South High Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215-6117

Dear Governor DeWine:

I want to thank you for your leadership in collaborating with the healthcare sector to help Ohio respond to COVID-19, a virus that continues to impact the lives of millions at the national level and thousands of individuals and families across the great state of Ohio. The virus continues to evolve and requires the best and brightest medical and public health professionals to work together to help individuals avoid disease and stay well. When individuals are well, they have a greater ability to contribute to local and state economies.

We have concerns about S.B. 22 because it creates another level of bureaucracy for us to navigate through while we are fighting a pandemic. We prefer a streamlined and efficient public health response because expeditious decisions are often required to respond to public health emergencies. These decisions are best made by experts in the field of infectious diseases and public health who are on the front line serving those affected by the pandemic.

We humbly request that you veto S.B. 22 so that we may continue to work effectively in supporting rapidly changing federal and state public health emergency plans that are being coordinated across public, private, and community sectors to best contain and eliminate this virus and other public health threats that are certain to emerge in the future.

Please reach out to me if you have any questions regarding my health system's position.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cliff Deveny", written in a cursive style.

Cliff Deveny, M.D.
President and Chief Executive Officer