



Testimony in Opposition of HB 1323
Senate Political Subdivisions Committee

Chairman Burkhard and Members of the Senate Industry, Business, and Labor Committee, my name is Mike Krumwiede appearing on behalf of the American Heart Association in opposition of House Bill 1323.

There is one main reason why AHA opposes HB 1323.

The AHA recognizes the importance of local power in safeguarding the public's health and safety. Local control fosters accountability because policymakers live in and understand the areas in which they work, allowing policies to be tailored to meet specific community needs. Additionally, local control can allow for innovation and encourages progress because policy implementation at the local level allows for experimentation and adjustment that isn't possible on a larger scale. Finally, enforcement of a policy is often easier at the local level because there is likely greater capacity and infrastructure in place.

HB 1323 completely removes the ability of a local subdivision to take steps regarding wearing masks when it comes safeguarding the public's health and safety. For these reasons we urge a DO NOT PASS recommendation on HB 1323. Thank you for your time and consideration.