

\*Please vote in favor of HB 1348 or HB 1249

Dear Committee Members,

I would like to voice my concern regarding the use of wastewater surveillance of COVID-19 to inform public health guidelines and restrictions. There is a big difference between TESTING wastewater in order to protect citizens from contamination and SURVEILLING wastewater in order to protect citizens from each other. Until reliability and efficacy of this new public health tool are demonstrated, implementing wastewater screening for COVID-19 to target public health resources, to require testing, to impose restrictions on movement, or to remove restrictions based on an absence of virus in the wastewater is premature at best. Even if reliability and efficacy are established, the legal and moral ramifications must be strongly and thoroughly considered before implementation.

Please render a "DO PASS" out of committee for HB 1348 or HB 1249.

Thank you for your leadership and service to our state.

<https://academic.oup.com/jlb/article/7/1/Isaa039/5861905>