



Students for Patient Advocacy Nationwide

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[www.spanationwide.org](http://www.spanationwide.org)

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**Position Letter: SB 170 (Huffman, Roegner) — Support**

Dear Chair Huffman and Members of the Ohio Senate Health Committee,

Students for Patient Advocacy Nationwide (SPAN) writes in strong support of SB 170, which would enact new sections of the Revised Code to allow eligible patients with life-threatening or severely debilitating illnesses to access individualized investigational treatments. We thank Senators Huffman and Roegner for their leadership in bringing this compassionate and forward-thinking legislation forward.

SB 170 recognizes that for some patients, conventional treatments may not be viable or effective. By creating a clear framework for physicians, patients, and eligible facilities to safely pursue personalized investigational drugs, biological products, or devices – such as individualized gene therapies or neoantigen vaccines – this bill gives hope to families facing devastating diagnoses.

The bill appropriately includes strong protections for informed consent, physician and facility discretion, and safeguards to ensure patients understand potential risks. It also affirms that manufacturers are not obligated to provide such treatments and allows them to recover reasonable costs if they choose to help a patient in need.

SPAN believes that patients fighting for their lives deserve every responsible option science can offer. SB 170 reflects Ohio's commitment to patient autonomy, medical innovation, and thoughtful oversight. We urge the committee to advance this important bill without delay.

Thank you for your leadership and continued commitment to expanding care options for Ohio patients and families.

Sincerely,

**Shayan Saqib**  
**HS Ambassador, SPAN**

**Vishank Panchbhavi**  
**Collegiate Ambassador, SPAN**

**Joel Blessan**  
**Policy Research Director, SPAN**