



To the Ohio State Medical Association:

As physicians and medical students who practice and study in Ohio, we oppose the recent endorsement of Attorney General Mike DeWine by the Ohio State Medical Association. While we believe the OSMA can be an effective advocate for physicians, based on resolutions adopted by the organization itself and DeWine's current and past stances on issues that directly affect doctors and our patients, we cannot support the OSMA endorsement.

The opioid epidemic that has greatly impacted Ohio and devastated communities requires all potential solutions to be on the table, including expanding health care coverage through Medicaid. 700,000 Ohioans have been covered thanks to the Medicaid expansion, and Medicaid in Ohio provides treatment services to tens of thousands of people struggling with [substance abuse](#). In the OSMA's endorsement of Sherrod Brown, the association explicitly cites his [past support](#) of Medicaid, not future promises.

While DeWine has decided it is now politically advantageous of him to support the expansion, his history suggests he is not likely to continue that position once in office. He has falsely criticized the expansion as "unsustainable" and even attacked his primary opponent for supporting the Medicaid expansion. In addition, his new election-season stance on Medicaid seeks to reduce the number of Ohioans covered by imposing needless restrictions on and more bureaucratic red tape for patients.

Medicaid is an important part of the fight against the opioid epidemic, but it is not the only part. As the OSMA has [resolved](#), alternative pain-management techniques such as acupuncture must be supported and expanded. Yet DeWine [failed](#) to join a bipartisan group of state attorneys general calling for insurance companies to incentivize alternative forms of pain management.

Further, Attorney General DeWine has consistently used his office to try and overturn the Affordable Care Act (ACA). While there are many legitimate concerns with the ACA that the OSMA has publicly stated, DeWine's many [lawsuits](#) have threatened insurance coverage for over [207,000 Ohioans](#) and overturned vital protections for patients, especially those with pre-existing conditions. Though DeWine claims to support and maintain protections for patients with pre-existing conditions, he has refused to take action and defend them in court against a lawsuit that could affect nearly [five million Ohioans](#).

While Mike DeWine may have genuinely had a change of heart regarding Medicaid and pre-existing conditions, the importance of the OSMA's advocacy for doctors and our patients, as well as the fickle nature of politics, requires caution and healthy skepticism.

The OSMA has also publicly defended medical professionals determining the appropriateness for performing [medical procedures](#) and opposed governmental overreach into health care. Yet as Ohio Attorney General, DeWine has repeatedly used his office to target medical providers he disagrees with through [unfounded accusations](#), [lawsuits](#), and [court filings](#). To endorse Mike DeWine is to endorse using governmental power and taxpayer money to harass physicians who are serving their patients and following the law.

We find it disappointing that the Ohio State Medical Association would reject so many of their own positions and endorse a politician whose career opposes what the association and we as physicians value. That is why as doctors and students from across Ohio we oppose the OSMA recommendation.

Signed,

Catherine Romanos, MD, Physician, Columbus, OH

Roma Amin, Physician, Columbus

Kelly Thibert, DO, Physician, Columbus

Matthew Adkins, Physician, Columbus

Nathaniel Overmire, Physician, Columbus

Ean Bett, Physician, Columbus

Jessica Quade, Physician, Columbus

Jackie Mostow, Med Student, Columbus

Colin McCluney, Physician, Columbus, OH

Katrina Timson, Physician, Worthington

Martin Haskell, Physician, Cincinnati

Abigail Lowther, MD, Physician, Columbus

Katherine Rivlin, Physician, Columbus

Dr. Natalie Hinchcliffe, Physician, Cleveland

Lisa Keder, MD, Physician, Bexley

Patricia Blochowiak, Physician, East Cleveland

Jane Balbo, DO, Physician, Athens

Chantal Doherty, Physician, Cleveland Heights

Kristin Huntoon, Physician, Columbus

Sarah Jonaus MD, Physician, Columbus

Jennifer McCallister, MD, Physician, Dublin, OH

Kristina Lehman, MD, IBCLC, FABM, FAAP, Physician, Columbus

Anita Somani MD, Physician, Dublin, Oh

Douglas James Weaver, Med Student, Columbus
Simrit Bhullar, Physician, Dublin
Stephanie Costa, Physician, Columbus
Christiane K. Hunt, DO, Physician, Upper Arlington, OH
Jeffrey Sams, MD, Physician, Westerville
Linda Hall, MD, Physician, Westerville
David Neiger, Physician, Columbus
Susanna Johnson, Physician, Marysville
Linda C. Stone, MD, Physician, Columbus
Timothy Rowland, MD, Physician, Upper Arlington
Robert L. Stone, M.D., Physician, Worthington
Anahi Ortiz M.D., Physician, New Albany
Arthur Lavin MD, FAAP, Physician, Cleveland
Everett Bush, Physician, Port Clinton
Elise D. Berlan, MD, MPH, Physician, Bexley
Carol Chung MD, Physician, Columbus
Caitlin Handy, Med Student, Columbus
Emily Daggett, Med Student, Cleveland Heights
Erika Reese, Med Student, Columbus
Michael Neiger, Med Student, Columbus
Ellen Schleckman, Med Student, Columbus
Kylie Zane, Med Student, Columbus
Rebecca Neiger, MD, Physician, Columbus
Monica gandhi, Med Student, Dayton
Gregory Lam, Med Student, Dublin
Arnold Good MD, Physician, New Albany
Allison Macerollo, Physician, Worthington
Meaghan Combs, Physician, Shaker Heights
Jasmine Tuazon, Med Student, Columbus

Peter Amsterdam, Physician, Columbus
Daniel Brook, Med Student, Columbus
Megan Preston MD, Physician, Delaware
Edward Haas MD, Physician, Delaware
David Schnitzer, Physician, Blacklick
Marc L Parnes MD, Physician, Columbus
Neil Richard MD, Physician, Dublin OH
Michelle Knopp, Physician, Cincinnati
Claire Wolfe, Physician, Dublin
Andrew Schamess, Physician, Columbus, OH
Daniel Mudrick, Physician, Upper Arlington
Jessica Motley, Med Student, Columbus
John W. Tyznik, M.D., Physician, Gahanna, Ohio
Lee Shackelford MD, Physician, Columbus, Ohio
J. Terrance Davis, MD, Physician, Columbus, OH
Tim Scarbrough, Physician, Columbus
Pablo Hernandez, Physician, Columbus
David A. Axelson, M.D., Physician, Bexley
Janet Bay, M.D., Physician, Powell, Ohio
Iain L. Grant, Physician, Columbus
Renata Reuenthal, Med Student, Columbus
Sarah Burns, Med Student, Columbus
Erin Bishop, Med Student, Columbus
Alexa Henderson, Med Student, Columbus
Michelle Isley MD MPH, Physician, Columbus
Alexander Curtis, Physician, Portsmouth
Sarah Leslie, Med Student, Dayton
Jared Squires, Med Student, Columbus
Delia Gold, Physician, Columbus

Monica Gandhi, Med Student, Beavercreek
Michael Styles MD, Physician, Westerville
Mikael P. Schilb, D.O., Physician, Lancaster
Parvaneh Nouri, Med Student, Dayton
Claire Meikle, Med Student, Toledo
Erika Boothman, Physician, Columbus
Samarchitha Magal, Med Student, Toledo
Jamie Robinson, Physician, Columbus
Keith Tofte, M.D., Physician, Wilmington
Brandon Pollak, MD, Physician, Worthington
Nazhat Taj Schaal, Physician, Powell
Harrison Weed, MD, Physician, Columbus (Upper Arlington)
Rosemary Roden, Physician, Columbus
Stephen Werner-Sleva, Med Student, Toledo
Arwa Shana'ah, Physician, Dublin
Matthew Belardo, Med Student, Toledo
Ellen Jochum, Med Student, Toledo
Delaney Halpin, Med Student, Cincinnati
Anne Worth, Physician, Columbus
Kyle Keller, Med Student, Perrysburg
Anil Mishra, Med Student, Toledo
Andrew Caras, Med Student, Norton
Akul Yajnik, Med Student, Toledo
Lisa Borkowski, Physician, Dublin
Annamarie Beckmeyer, Med Student, Columbus
Matt Steiner, Med Student, Rootstown
Chris Esber, Physician, Columbus
William M. Johnson, MD, Physician, Dublin
Anna Squibb, Physician, Xenia

Danielle Dukes, Med Student, Springfield
Chelsea Mooreland, MD, Physician, New Albany
Scott Rogers, Physician, Columbus
Verneda Troyer, Physician, Columbus
Shelley Blackburn, M.D., Physician, Columbus
Nancy Mathieu, Physician, Hilliard
Molly Wilson, Physician, Columbus
Daniel Skinner, Ph.D, Columbus
Robin C. Devine, Physician, Columbus
Ann Steck, MD, Physician, Perrysburg
Scott McLemore, Med Student, Columbus
Ruth Egwakhe , Physician,
Sara Allen, DO, Physician, Westerville
Sara Myers, Med Student, Cleveland
Alexandra Tavenier, Med Student, Hilliard
Whitney Whitis, Physician, Cincinnati
Hannah Groveman, Med Student, Cleveland
David Strawhun, Med Student, Columbus
Gloria Tavera, Med Student, Cleveland
Lei Kang, Med Student, Cleveland
Stephanie Wottrich, Med Student, Cleveland
Paul Moiseyev, Med Student, Cleveland
Kevin, Med Student, Cleveland
Sanjay Sridaran, Med Student, Cleveland Heights
Neal Mehta, Physician, Cleveland
Andrew Wapner, Physician, Columbus
Emily Maraschky, MD, Physician, Cleveland
Patricia Arnold, Physician, Columbus
Mark N Rood, MD, Physician, Chagrin Falls

Benjamin H. Parker-Goos, Med Student, Cleveland

Kelsey Ryan, Med Student, Columbus

Hannah Gerdes, Med Student, Columbus

Dana Lee, Med Student, Columbus

Ashley Hardee, Med Student, Columbus

Joan E Trey MD, Physician, Cleveland Hts

Erin Bishop, Med Student, Columbus

Neal Pohlman, Med Student, Columbus

Adam Wise, Med Student, Columbus

Benjamin Bazin, Med Student, Columbus

Jeremiah Shaw, Med Student, Columbus

Hannah Smith, Med Student, Columbus

Anne S Wise, MD, MPH, Physician, Cleveland

Adam Darwiche, Med Student, Cincinnati

Eric Curfman, Med Student, Shaker Heights

Pooja Podugu, Med Student, Cleveland

Daniela Jimenez-Harrison, Med Student, Columbus

Matthew Flanigan, Physician, Columbus

Ann Reichsman, MD, Physician, Cleveland Heights

Lauren Kreiger md, Physician, Cleveland

Rebecca Glowinski, Med Student, Columbus

Sasha Yurgionas, Physician, Rocky River

Brad W. Cotton, MD, Physician, Circleville

Amanda Gu, Med Student, Columbus

Mollie Myers, Med Student, Toledo

Katherine Chen, Med Student, Toledo

Pallavy Reddy, Physician, New Albany

Roslyn Kade, Physician, Cincinnati

Richard D Smith, MD, Physician, Dayton

Donald Nguyen, Physician, Beavercreek

Eric Altneu, Physician, Columbus

Kristin Foley, Physician, Bexley

Anne-Marie Sinay, Physician, Columbus

Tamar Gur MD, PhD, Physician, Bexley

David W. Tessier, MD, Physician, Columbus

Mohammed Miniato, Med Student, Toledo

Kelly Seifert MD, Physician, Worthington

Chad Braun, Physician, Columbus

Jessica Carney, Physician, Columbus

Erika Boothman, MD MPH, Physician, Columbus

Robert Hershfield, Physician, Bexley

Sharon Liner, Physician, Blue Ash