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**Planned Parenthood Advocates of Ohio**

Chair Cupp, Chair Sykes, and the members of the Ohio Redistricting Commission, my name is Sierra Dobbs-Brown, and I've lived in Columbus, Ohio, for nearly 26 years—my whole life. Currently, I live in Clintonville. I live near a Whitt's Frozen Custard; I live near a Lucky's market; I live near more antique shops than anyone needs, and I also live near the Whetstone Park of Roses and library. This is somewhere I have gone often, this is somewhere I walk to, this is somewhere I see as a pillar of my community, yet this is somewhere that is not in my district. I'm represented by Senator Andrew Brenner in a district that picks up a small chunk of my more progressive community and sprawls all the way up to Mansfield, Ohio, where there are folks with very different priorities and needs than Clintonville.

Aside from being someone who can't seem to leave this wonderful state, I am also the Central Ohio Regional Field Manager with Planned Parenthood Advocates of Ohio. We have been in these halls countless times, year after year, to speak to members of this legislative body about the 30 attacks we've seen on reproductive freedom since 2011—only to see this body vote in opposition to the wants and needs of Ohioans time and time again. And I'm here again today, on behalf of Planned Parenthood Advocates of Ohio and the hundreds of thousands of supporters we represent.

Ohioans overwhelmingly support access to abortion, but when our district lines were drawn to keep one party securely in power, Ohioans lost. We lost the fair and equitable representation from our elected officials that we are promised as the foundation of a successful democracy. And since 2011, Ohio has lost half of the abortion providers in our state. This loss is directly related to the onslaught of attacks abortion providers have been under at the whim of this legislature.

All people, regardless of our race, gender, socioeconomic status, or zip code, deserve to be able to make decisions for our health care. Yet, when district maps were created that dilute our vote, anti-abortion extremism that is out of touch with what Ohioans want and need only went further. Young people, Black folks, other communities of color, and queer people are all disproportionately impacted by laws that chip away at our access to abortion. And when we look at the racial and partisan gerrymandering that happened in 2011, these are also communities that were intentionally cracked apart to take away their power.

I stand before this commission today to state clearly that Ohioans want and need access to abortion. But because Ohio politicians have been picking their voters for the last decade, these needs have not been reflected by this elected body. I hope that as you move forward in the process of redistricting, Ohioans will receive the fair representation we all deserve. And in turn, we will have a legislature that is proudly fighting to ensure each person can access the health care they need—including and especially access to abortion and all reproductive health care. I thank you for your time, and I welcome any questions you may have.