

30 East Broad Street, 3rd Floor Columbus, Ohio 43215 614-466-3934 med.ohio.gov

National Association for the Advancement of Colored People 1528 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Way Dayton, Ohio 45402

Dear Dr. Foward:

Thank you for reaching out to the State Medical Board of Ohio and sharing your concern. It is the board's duty to protect the health and safety of Ohioans. The board takes seriously its authority and obligation to investigate complaints made against licensees.

The State Medical Board of Ohio is aware of the remarks made by Ohio State Senator Dr. Steve Huffman. Ohio law prohibits the board from publicly disclosing information about complaints and investigations. However, please know the Medical Board works diligently to uphold high standards in the care provided to all Ohioans. Physicians in Ohio are subject to a professional code of ethics and are expected to deliver quality care regardless of a patient's race, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, sociodemographic, or other identifying factors.

We recognize the long-standing history of inequality in health care for Black communities. I, along with my fellow board members and board staff, applaud the physicians and community leaders such as yourself and the members of the Dayton Unit NAACP who have worked hard to remove barriers. Together we must continue building access to quality health care and trusted resources. The board is committed to continuing to educate our licensees on cultural competencies and the fight to eliminate health disparities.

Sincerely,

Michael Schottenstein, M.D.

President, State Medical Board of Ohio