



On Thursday, May 28th, the Ohio House of Representatives passed House Bill 606, a bill creating limited immunity for COVID-19 related lawsuit for both health care providers and general businesses.

Health care providers are immune from liability for injuries, death and property damage related to providing care related to a declared disaster or emergency. This immunity is limited and does not exist if the health care provider's actions constitute a reckless disregard, intentional conduct or willful or wanton misconduct. It also provides immunity for acts outside the skills of a health care provider if the healthcare provider does so in good faith and due to a lack of resources caused by the disaster or emergency.

Similarly, the bill provides immunity to businesses for a claim of transmission or contraction of COVID-19 unless the transmission or contraction is due to recklessness, intentional conduct or willful or wanton misconduct.

Both of these provisions apply from March 9, 2020, the date of the declared emergency in Ohio due to COVID-19, through December 31, 2020.

Here is a link to the bill: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-HB-606>

The Ohio Senate is working on its own immunity statute.

