



## Representative Kent Smith

Ohio House District 8

January 8, 2021

Governor Mike DeWine  
1 Capitol Square  
Columbus, OH 43215

Dear Governor DeWine,

I am writing you today to request of you that you seek the resignation of Ms. Susan Allan Block from the Ohio Arts Council. If she will not resign, I am requesting that you remove her immediately.

I believe you are aware of the social media post that Ms. Block authored regarding the riot that occurred at the U.S. Capitol on Wednesday, January 6, 2021. I am thoroughly disgusted by some of her language and, as a result, I believe she has forfeited all personal credibility and therefore is unable to provide leadership to the Ohio Arts Council (OAC).

Allow me to highlight some of her most disturbing accusations:

Ms. Block claimed that the election of Vice President Joseph Biden is illegitimate despite 63 court cases (to date), three recounts and one failed coup attempt all suggest that she is exceedingly incorrect. Vice President Biden gained 306 electoral votes and 7 million more votes than President Trump. I fail to see how Ms. Block can claim the election was illegitimate which calls into question her cognitive abilities.

More troubling than her failure to be able to count, Ms. Block also advocated for "No Peace" in her social media rant. Is she encouraging violence, mob rule, or the kidnapping and trial of elected leaders? If she is in favor of the storming of the U.S. Capitol, will she also advocate for the invasion of the Ohio Statehouse, the Ohio Supreme Court, the Governor's offices, or Governor's mansion?

Ms. Block seems to have taken a position that runs counter to that of a functioning Democracy. She has sided with seditionists and domestic terrorists. I believe that you would agree with me, Governor, that what makes Ohio and America great is the rule of law, the voter's voice, and the peaceful transfer of power.

The most vile comment in Ms. Block's post is about the incoming Vice President - a mother, wife, and sitting U.S. Senator from America's most populous state. It was a despicable, personal attack that was not fitting of civil discourse and should be harshly condemned.

The mission of OAC is to fund(s) and support(s) quality arts experiences to strengthen Ohio communities culturally, educationally, and economically. I hope you will respect the artists and residents of Ohio by removing Ms. Block from her position of leadership from the Ohio Arts Council, as her views should not influence Ohio artists, the creative experience and Ohio's creative community.

I appreciate your attention to this matter, and I anticipate a prompt action to this request.

Sincerely Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kent Smith". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kent Smith  
Ohio State Representative, District 8

