

I am writing this email urging your support of Ohio House Bill 193. I personally know so many people suffering from this erosion of personal rights and thank you for hearing these stories. I started working in a hospital as my first job out of high school. I quickly decided that nursing school was going to be my career choice. After 14 years working my way up from ER tech to house nursing supervisor (working full time through college with 3 kids) I was faced with the choice to submit to our forced vaccination policy or be fired from my dream job.

They had been threatening for the past few years to make it "no jab, no job" and, luckily, I was grandfathered in to my personal exemption for several years (they had started only hiring employees who signed an agreement to get the shot every year as a condition of employment). I knew it was only a matter of time before it was my turn so I began asking questions, asserting informed consent was being violated due to coercion (How is take this or you're fired consent?) I was told that I can't be "anti-establishment and part of the establishment at the same time". I was told "just take the shot, it's not worth losing your job" and "what's the big deal" more times than I could count.

I urge you to look at the efficacy of forced influenza vaccination, research the injury cases paid out through VAERS website related to influenza vaccination. It is a big deal to be forced to play Russian roulette every year with a shot that is not only ineffective, but dangerous, in the name of Medicare reimbursement masquerading as concern for patients. Who will take care of me if I'm injured from this? Die?

I allowed them to fire me. They even attempted to put that I quit on my HR records, I made them change it. Being fired, as the nursing supervisor, for standing up for the rights of everyone who was not able to leave as easily was one of the proudest moments of my life. I left December 2015 after over 14 years at a hospital I loved and thrived in.

My parents are both still working there, both forced to endure this invasive, dangerous procedure every year fully against their will because they're vested in the company after working there 30+ years each (Never sick, no calling off over 25 years without influenza vaccination in ER)

Now, I am a travel nurse and I am unable to work in my field from October - March without the shot. It is a financial burden I am not able to sustain and am faced, once again, with gambling my health for money. My plan is to decline every other year so I can still take care of my family but I am 1000% compromising my morals and ethics by doing so and by administering this to others who I know are only getting it because they have no choice.

Look at healthcare vaccination rates when there's clear choice, the infection rate is the same, if not lower. Hand and respiratory hygiene is by far more effective and safer for our patients and staff.

Help us return consent to the individual it belongs to. Help us stand up for the rights of those still enduring this erosion of personal liberty.

Amanda Zibrida ICU RN Ohio

Ohio House Bill 193 would protect Ohio workers who choose to decline a flu shot. It's very simple language:

Sec. 4113.73. (A) As used in this section, "employer" has the same meaning as in section 4113.51 of the Revised Code.

(B) No employer shall discharge without just cause, refuse to hire, or otherwise discriminate against any person with respect to hire, tenure, terms, conditions, or privileges of employment, or

any matter directly or indirectly related to employment, on the basis that the person has not been or will not be vaccinated against influenza for any reason, including medical, religious, or philosophical.

<https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-status?id=GA132-HB-193>

Many states allow employees to decline flu vaccine for any reason including California, Illinois, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Nebraska, New York, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Oregon, Texas, and Utah. However, there is much resistance to this bill hospital associations and chambers of commerce in Ohio. While OAMF understands that employers can have reasonable expectations of employees such as proper attire, hair nets, shoe covers, hand washing, etc., we also believe that there should be a line that shouldn't be crossed in terms of employers requiring workers to submit to invasive medical procedures.

« Flu shots have known risks ... even death. The government compensates more people for harm caused by flu shots than any other vaccine.

« Flu shot effectiveness varies from year to year and can be as low as 10%.

« Vaccinating medical workers offers little protection, if any, to patients.

« HB 193 would protect Ohio workers from termination or discrimination for declining a flu shot.

Find the research to back these points in our updated Influenza Fact Sheet at <https://ohioamf.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/Flu-facts-2-1.pdf>

BOTTOM LINE: Mandatory medical procedures are in violation of the right to informed consent. We must keep medical decisions in the hands of individuals.