

Chairman Stein, Vice Chair Johnson, Ranking Member Lepore-Hagan, and Honorable Members of the House Commerce and Labor Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony as an interested party in Sub HB 435.

I am a wife, mother to two beautiful daughters, and I worked as a pharmacist for over 10 years. In recent years, life situations caused me to research how to nutritionally care for my family, while also supplementing them with natural substances versus drugs. It is because of this that I firmly believe that parents will have different viewpoints on what is the best way to medically care for their children. What works for one may not be good for another. This makes the right to choose ABSOLUTELY ESSENTIAL.

I am concerned about this bill for several reasons:

-- The naturally immune to COVID appear to be discriminated against. Recent evidence is overwhelmingly showing that the vaccinated are having many breakthrough cases, transmitting the virus to others, and even getting very sick and dying. However, natural immunity appears to be robust and long lasting. So why require the naturally immune to prove antibodies? Furthermore, why would they be required to keep retesting to show they have antibodies? This is clear discrimination which doesn't make scientific sense. Particularly since vaccine efficacy is looking like it only lasts 7 months.

-- It does nothing to stop vaccine passports, and in fact is allowing for the sharing of personal health information in order to participate in society, whether it be for employment, education, etc.

-- After the bill takes effect, it does nothing for anyone who becomes newly employed.

-- There is a sunset provision of this ending in 2023.

-- This doesn't prevent anyone from making a vaccine mandate, nor does it prevent discrimination against those who choose not to take a vaccine.

-- Nothing is specified prohibiting essential businesses like grocery stores from discriminating against those unvaccinated.

Vaccines need to continue to be a personal choice, particularly concerning the experimental COVID vaccine. Reports continue to roll in of people who were vaccinated and now have a new onset of health problems. Furthermore, reports of death not long after the vaccine is administered are accumulating. Additionally, young people continue to experience very serious issues of myocarditis and pericarditis. My family all has natural immunity. I would not want to expose my children to this vaccine that carries risk when we already survived COVID and have very little chance of reinfection. It is my job to protect my children, and I feel that my decision is the best one for them considering our circumstances. Why should anyone have the right to tell me my choice is wrong and punish my children by taking away their right to an education or the ability to participate in society when they would be some of the SAFEST people in society?

Please work to ensure that vaccine mandates are STOPPED, vaccine passports do not become reality, and for us to maintain medical sovereignty. The choice should ALWAYS be left up to the individual, not the employer, not the school, not anyone else.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Gina Hayward, RPh