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Chairman Lipps, Vice Chair Holmes, Ranking Member Russo, and Members of the House Health Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide proponent testimony on House Bill 248.

My name is Lesley Martin-Mock and I am an Advanced Practice Nurse in the State of Ohio. I am writing to express my support for House Bill 248. The issue of autonomy in healthcare decisions is essential to all Ohioans, especially those of us in healthcare. As I am sure you are aware a significant number of hospitals in Ohio have implemented mandatory flu shots over the last decade. If you ask first line healthcare professionals that vast majority desire the right to make their own healthcare decisions and not have them determined for them by their profession or employer.

These policies have had real consequences for both medical professionals and patients. I have seen 2 of my colleagues leave the profession over mandated vaccines. One chose to resign prior to the Coronavirus vaccine release for fear of it being mandatory. He was one of the most exceptional Physician Anesthesiologists I have had the pleasure of working with. I ask you to protect our right to determine our healthcare decisions, whatever they may be. Just as we respect those right of our patients.

Thank you once again for this opportunity to provide testimony on the need for and urgency of House Bill 248.

Respectfully

Lesley A Martin-Mock MSN, CRNA