Health Committee:

I am writing this letter in support of HB 248 in the state of Ohio. I have many reasons to support this bill.

First, my family has very strong religious feelings about the covid vaccine as well as some other vaccines. The covid vaccine includes aborted fetal cell lines in the development, production and possibly the manufacturing of the vaccine. This truly hurts me to the heart. To think that the government, my employer or some sons' schools could force us to inject our bodies with a vaccine developed from the murdering of innocent babies is appalling and deeply disturbing.

Second, my 20 year old son, Justin, is on the autism spectrum. I don't know if all of his childhood vaccines were the cause, and I will probably never know. I do know that he is the first on both sides of the family to be diagnosed with autism. My husband and I made a vow when he was diagnosed at 6 years old to rid our house and lives of all chemicals and live as cleanly as we could. It has served us very well. We use lots of essential oils to clean with and add to our food. We have been quite healthy for it. And now to think again that the government, employer or school could force me to alter the clean lifestyle that I have worked so hard to achieve is very upsetting. This has created so much anxiety for myself and my son, Justin. This vaccine contains polyethylene glycol and formaldehyde. I don't want that injected into my body.

Third, all four of us in my family got covid 19 in January 2021. At the beginning of the pandemic, we started taking vitamin D, zinc and quercetin at the advice of our doctor and based on lots of our own research. When we got covid, we had what we thought was just a bad cold but then two of us lost our sense of taste and smell. We recovered very easily and were actually grateful we finally got it. Now we had the natural antibodies and immunity. According to many health professionals, someone who has had the virus and then gets the vaccine has increased chances of getting a hyper immune response which is not good for us. When would anyone ever get a vaccine for a virus that they have already had?

Fourth, I know many people in my small circle of family and friends who have had side effects from the vaccine. My own mother suffered chronic headaches starting right after the first shot and then intensified right after the second shot. This lasted until about a month after the second shot. By chronic, I mean a daily headache for over two months. I know another person who's mother in law starting having short term memory loss after the vaccine. Another person lost her grandmother a few days after the shot. No one will ever know if these instances were due to the vaccine but why take the chance and force anyone to take that chance?

Fifth, allowing employers and schools to mandate vaccines or in this case, an <u>experimental</u> vaccine and make the unvaccinated wear masks or stay at home and not be able to travel, creates a segregated society. A segregated society is what we have worked so hard over the past 50 or more years to avoid. And I have worked tirelessly over the past 15 years to get my son, Justin, involved in as many activities as possible to help his social skills. He became an Eagle Scout and black belt in karate. To think he may not have these same choices in the future because he isn't vaccinated against a virus that he has already recovered from is so worrisome for me. It is already difficult for him to find a college that he can learn at and a job

that accepts and deals with his autism. How will he succeed in life if those opportunities are now even less than they are now? Who will take care of him when I am gone?

Sixth, my youngest son, Adam, just graduated today from Medina High School. He is planning to attend Cleveland State University's film school in the fall. We received an email back in late March notifying us that anyone living on campus would be required to get the vaccine. I cannot tell you how long I cried about that email that night. How could I tell my son that his dreams of going to film school may not come true. After calling the university many times and talking to many departments, I finally received an email from someone telling me I could write a religious exemption to the Office of Institutional Equity. No one seemed to know what I could do and many didn't know the college was mandating the vaccine. I had my son write such the religious exemption letter and email it. We have yet to receive a response. I am assuming that they will honor the exemption as I think they have to, but I worry constantly that his dreams of living with his high school friends on campus his freshman year will be denied. This is the only film school in Ohio and thus, his only choice to attend college.

Seventh, I am a partner in a CPA firm in Ohio. We have approximately 30 - 35 employees. We have always allowed the employees to make their own medical choices and will continue to do so. I have had some employees come to me with concerns that we would mandate the vaccine. I put their mind at ease and said we would never interfere with our employee's personal medical decisions. We are not doctors.

Please do NOT let Ohio allow vaccine passports and mandates. My mind, my body, my decision.

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