

Chairman Lipps, Vice Chair Holmes, Ranking Member Russo, and Members of the House Health Committee,

I appreciate the opportunity to provide proponent testimony on House Bill 248.

My name is Shayne Reichard, and I am a physicist. I support House Bill 248 because I am gravely concerned about the direction in which the United States of America is headed. For over a year, the American people have been subjected to various forms of coercion, oppression, vilification, isolation, and derogation. Many have tried to grin and bear it for the sake of their families and friends. However, the push for vaccine passports or vaccine disclosure goes entirely too far. This violation of our privacy—under the illusion of health and safety—threatens to exacerbate the divide in our nation. It shows a complete disregard not only for the American citizens' agency but, in particular, for those who are unable to take a vaccine for any reason. It puts undue pressure on those who do not understand the risks of experimental therapies or who do not have the financial capabilities to challenge medical discrimination in court.

Any attempt to bribe, cajole or threaten Ohio citizens into taking the vaccine or disclosing medical status should be regarded as a criminal offense.

Like any American, Ohioans have the inalienable right to make these medical decisions of their own conscience and in private. Other states have already passed legislation similar to HB 248, and Ohioans demand the same protection.

HB 248 is the right choice for Ohio. My gratitude goes to State Representative Jennifer Gross for proposing this essential legislation for Ohio.

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

Sincerely,

Shayne Reichard