

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 April Lewis and I am a wife and mother of three young children. The reason I support House Bill 248 is because I am committed to protecting my right to make medical decisions for myself and my family.

Medical discrimination has no place in Ohio, and I am concerned about our rights to choose which treatments are best for our families. Ohioans should be free to make medical decisions without fear of reprisal. Giving anyone other than my doctor access to my health information is wrong; it should always be kept private.

I have been closely following the CDC's VAERS database to monitor the outcomes of these vaccines. I have read the reports of people being severely harmed and even killed by the shots. It's especially troubling that young, healthy people (who are not at high risk of severe disease from coronavirus) have suffered heart disease, stroke, and even death. I have friends who have developed high fevers, rashes and even paralysis of a limb after receiving these vaccines.

Three years ago, I saw an orthopedic doctor for a knee injury. He gave me an injection to address my pain and swelling. Immediately after I received the shot, I broke out in hives, struggled to breathe, and experienced anaphylaxis. I am very careful about the medicines and injections I put into my body, and refuse to take unnecessary risk which may cause me another instance of this kind of injury. I will not take the "Covid Vaccine" because I fear the harm it could cause would outweigh any benefit it would grant me. That's my personal choice, and it should not be questioned or criticized by anyone.

It is not ethical to insist upon or coerce vaccinations or medical treatments of any kind. Our privacy must be protected by law, and it must be illegal to discriminate against Ohioans on the basis of their health status. "Vaccine passports" or any program of this kind is dangerous and un-American. No corporation doing business in Ohio should be permitted to ask for my personal health information, including my vaccination status. Imagine if businesses asked customers if they were HIV positive, and refused them service if they said yes. This scenario is unthinkable, yet we are being asked invasive questions about our medical condition by many stores and businesses. This is not acceptable.

HB 248 is a good bill. It protects our privacy, our rights, and our liberty. I urge you to support it, and to encourage your fellow legislators to pass this bill quickly.

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

Sincerely,

April Lewis
Sycamore Township, OH