

HB248 Witness Testimony

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 Mahala Gray and I am a registered nurse at Kettering Health, a nurse practitioner student, and a new mother, and the reason I support House Bill 248 is because I believe in medical freedom and confidential health information. As a nurse and nurse practitioner student, I believe we should be given the same opportunity and rights in the medical profession as we give to our patients. We would never force or coerce patients into doing something they are uncomfortable with or do not consent to, why do we give that option to patients, but not the caregivers and providers? Everyone, including health care providers, should always have a choice in their medical decisions and not be forced to consent to medical interventions with the threat of losing your job. I believe this to be true for confidential health information as well. You should never be obligated to explain your confidential health information with your employer, as this is a direct violation of HIPPA. Employers should not require explanation of health information as a job requirement. From the aspect of a new mother who is in the medical field, it is unethical to force me to receive an experimental, and rushed drug as this would not only affect me, but potentially my newborn child as well. I would appreciate the same rights we give to our patients for myself, my family, and my coworkers.

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

Sincerely,

Mahala Gray