

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 Jason Melko and I am a mechanic for a municipality in the state of Ohio and the reason I support House Bill 248 is because it's just plain common sense. Just yesterday we received a citywide email stating that fully vaccinated employees are now allowed to enter all city buildings without a mask while those who haven't been vaccinated must still continue to do so. That's discrimination plain and simple. How do they know who is or is not? Passports? Questionnaires? Does this not go against HIPAA laws that have been in place for over three decades? Besides, the FDA has only authorized this vaccine for "emergency" use which means it is still very much "EXPERIMENTAL." I am not anti-vaccine but I'm very skeptical of this particular product. Government is supposed to ensure the freedom of individuals. It is up to the individual to make their own health decisions. We need this bill passed to ensure health freedom for all Ohioans.

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

Sincerely, Jason Melko