

Health Committee,

Chairman Lipps, Vice Chair Holmes, Ranking member Russo, and Members of the House Health Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provided proponent testimony on House Bill 248.

I am writing regarding bill HB248. My name is Erica McIntosh, and I am a Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant that works in the school system. The reason I support this bill is because I believe vaccination should be a choice. Over the past year I have suffered from some health problems and had to take several months off from my position. On one occasion of my doctor visits, my nurse practitioner asked me if I had received any vaccinations recently, which I had not. She also advised me not to receive any due to my health problems. My son has also had terrible eczema that covered his entire body, which caused him to be miserable most hours of the day and night. Severe screaming and itching were the norm for him for years, and still is some days. I believe this to be a reaction to some of his vaccinations with it becoming much worse within a week of his vaccinations. Eczema is listed on the insert of potential side effect of vaccinations. We are not all created equal and a certain drug that may benefit one, may destroy someone else's health. The same goes for vaccinations. Not all benefit from them and to discriminate someone because their body may not tolerate them is unconstitutional.

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

Sincerely,

Erica McIntosh