

Chairman Lipps, Vice Chair Holmes, Ranking Member Russo, And Members of the House Health Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide proponent testimony for HB248

My name is Angela Gray, I am a concerned citizen, mother, grandmother and wife. I have a son who is diabetic and children and grandchildren who have asthma. We had COVID 19 go thru our houses during Thanksgiving last year.

Everyone is fine and we're only sick for about a week or so. I am aware some people are getting sicker than this and also some are dying from COVID. I support vaccination and I believe vaccines have saved many lives in the past and will continue to save lives in the future. I do however feel it's wrong to discriminate against people who choose not to get a vaccine. We as Americans have freedom of choice when it comes to what we do medically with our bodies. If employers and businesses start to require a vaccine to keep your job or participate in acts like concerts, going to the movies or dinner we will be losing our freedoms. The COVID vaccine is only approved for emergency use and some are already talking about vaccine passports and requirements for attending in person classes this fall. This would not be a free America. We know from history what happened when blacks and whites were segregated, it did not go well and it was our nation not treating people fairly. All people need to be treated equal and showing papers to go to work or attend events is not how America works. We are not a communist country, we are a free country. This is also intrusion into people's private medical decisions. This should be a personal choice for every individual. These are a few reasons why I support and urge you to support HB 248.