

Chairman Lipps, Vice Chair Holmes, Ranking Member Russo, and Members of the House Health Committee,

Thank you sincerely for the opportunity to provide testimony on *House Bill 248* (HB-248).

My name is Mary Greiner, MD, MS, FAAP. I am a child abuse pediatrician and I direct the CHECK Foster Care Center at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center, delivering healthcare to children in foster care in Ohio. I am also an elected member of the Executive Committee of the American Academy of Pediatrics' Council on Foster Care, Adoption, and Kinship Care.

I stand in opposition to HB-248. Vaccination has been the single most important advance in science to save lives. This would be an enormous step backwards for the health of children in Ohio. I am concerned that Ohio's most vulnerable children, those in foster care, would fall even farther behind in health outcomes with this bill.

The science is clear with study after study demonstrating the degree to which benefits of vaccination outweigh risk. To put the health of children in Ohio at risk for a political fight is unconscionable.

Thank you for the opportunity to voice my opposition to this bill.

Sincerely,

[Mary V. Greiner, M.D., M.S.](#)

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