



Chairman Lipps, Vice Chairman Holmes, Ranking Member Russo and members of the House Health Committee, thank you for the opportunity to express our opposition to House Bill 248 on behalf of the Ohio Physical Therapy Association (OPTA). The OPTA is the state professional association representing physical therapists, physical therapy assistants and physical therapy students in Ohio.

Our association is very concerned with this dangerous legislation. As doctorate level healthcare providers, physical therapists know the value and benefit vaccines have on public health. Research and history have proven the effectiveness of vaccines.

While much attention has been given to the COVID-19 vaccine, House Bill 248 goes far beyond COVID. It would apply to ALL vaccines. Our members work with young and immunosuppressed patients. We work in hospitals, nursing homes, schools, and many other settings. We have a duty to ensure we do not put our patients at added risk. Vaccines are an important tool in that protection. We ask the legislature to please focus on promoting fact-based information on vaccines. Herd immunity against diseases of the past have been achieved thanks to science and vaccines. We do not want to take our population backwards and put people at risk.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments and please do not pass House Bill 248.