To whom it may concern on the Health Committee,

My name is Ariel Zeiler and I am a physician assistant student that attends the University of Dayton. I support the House Bill 248 because I am being required to get the COVID vaccine or I will not be able to complete my clinal rotations and graduate. My program is making the vaccine mandatory because our clinical sites, which includes Premier locations, are requiring the vaccine for all staff or they will be forced to resign. Premier Health is not allowing any exemptions, besides pregnancy. Vaccinations should not be forced onto anyone. Medical personnel learn that all patients have the right to bodily autonomy. Autonomy is "the right of patients to make decisions about their medical care without their healthcare provider trying to influence the decision." In other words, healthcare providers cannot make decisions for the patient, but rather give accurate information about the risks and benefits for treatments so that the patient can make an informed decision. Healthcare personnel are directly being disregarded their right to make medical decisions for themselves. I have personally had COVID in November of 2020, as a previously healthy and young individual, my symptoms were mild. I had a sore throat, cough, and loss of taste and smell. Therefore, no worse than a common cold. I understand that not everyone has these same outcomes with COVID, but I should be able to decide for myself on the risks and benefits of getting COVID again, versus getting the vaccine. It is my duty to make decisions about what is best for my health, no one else's. What is good for one, is not what is always good for all. Treatment or prophylaxis should always be individualized, this is not the case when clinical sites and my program are making the decision for me. They do not know my health history, therefore they cannot make decisions about my health.

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

Sincerely,
Ariel Zeiler