

House Health Committee  
Proponent Testimony for House Bill 248  
By Christina M Lawrence

August 8, 2021

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

Thank you for considering my written proponent testimony on HB 248.

My name is Christina M Lawrence. I am a registered nurse that has worked in Ohio, as such, since 1998. I am the mother of one adult child and the sole financial support in my household.

In 2012 the local hospital system implemented mandatory influenza vaccines as a requirement for employment. As a result, many exceptional healthcare workers left the healthcare system because their medical, religious and or philosophical beliefs were not honored or respected. I was one of these healthcare workers. I was fortunate to obtain another position that did not require vaccines for employment. This was not true for everyone. Once again, I am concerned that my employment may be in jeopardy, thus devastating my household financially.

Some of the concerns that I have regarding the COVID-19 vaccines are the lack of studies, no long-term studies, as well as no FDA approval. Without these specific issues being met, this is in fact an experimental medical procedure. The current data shows that in 2020 there were 10,875 adverse events due to COVID-19 vaccines from injection site reactions up to death. Considering that vaccines typically undergo 10-15 years of trials and data collection in order to be FDA approved, it should be evident as to the reason for concern by so many. There has been no available data to show vaccine-associated risk in pregnancy, risks to a breastfed infant, or on milk production / excretion. Long-term effects are unknown. Transgenerational effects are unknown.

The National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986 states the following: "Provides that no vaccine manufacturer shall be liable in a civil action for damages arising from a vaccine-related injury or death." There is an entire law practice dedicated to vaccine injuries. The Countermeasures Injury Compensation Program is a federal program that has been created to help pay for related costs of medical care and other specific expenses to compensate people injured after use of certain medical countermeasures. The Vaccine Injury Compensation Program insulates vaccine manufacturers from liability and requires that petitioners may not sue manufacturers or healthcare practitioners. The VICP awards compensation out of a Vaccine Injury Trust Fund collected from an excise tax that is imposed on the sale of every vaccine. If a corporation isn't held liable for their actions, what is there to stop them from applying substandard measures in the development of any product?

The First Principle of the Nuremberg Code is "The voluntary consent of the human subject is absolutely essential". This means that the person involved should be able to exercise free power of choice, without the intervention of any element of force, fraud, deceit, duress, overreaching, or other ulterior form of constraint or coercion.

Informed consent – vaccination is a medical intervention that is performed on a healthy individual that can lead to injury or death. Humans have the right to guardianship of their bodies and can refuse medical treatments as they choose to. As legislators it is your duty to protect citizens from discrimination and potentially harmful practices. As a healthcare worker, all patients have the choice to accept or deny any medical practice or procedure. This right should be afforded to all humans.

Having to make a choice between accepting a vaccine and keeping your job is a very unpleasant one. Many will face uncertain futures if this bill is not passed. This bill will protect citizens and allow them to choose or deny medical interventions without force.

Thank you for your time and consideration on this extremely important issue.

Where there is risk, there must be a choice. Please vote YES on HB 248.

Christina M Lawrence, RN