

Chairman Lipps, Vice Chair Holmes, Ranking Member Russo, and Members of the House Health Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide proponent testimony on House Bill 248.

My name is Emaly Bartel I work in Information Technology for the Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland. The reason I support House Bill 248 is because no U.S. citizen should be forced to undergo a medical procedure or accept a medication against their will or as a condition of employment. As a veteran, I find this attempt to place a mandate for accepting the Covid-19 vaccination as a condition of employment, a violation of the rights that I swore to protect.

My employer, the Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland, announced today (8/11/21) that they will fire anyone who is not vaccinated on November 1.

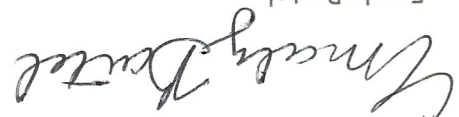
They have given us 16 days to apply for a medical or religious exemption.

I am scared. I have not decided to be vaccinated yet, but do not understand how they can do this to us. We have been 100% working from home (I work in information technology) since mid March 2020. They want to start having employees work at the bank 3 days a week.

By removing the full time work from home option from us, they are causing a situation where they can decide if an individual can be forced to vaccinate in order to maintain their employment. There is no legitimate reason people who do not want to be vaccinated at this time should not be allowed to remain working from home.

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

Sincerely,



Emaly Bartel

8/11/2021