

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 Susan Nugent. I retired for teaching on May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021. I support House Bill 248 for two reasons. I am a cancer survivor and want the ability to control the vaccines and medical treatment that goes into my body. I am immunocompromised due to the cancer and radioactive treatment I received. I have been able to take a vitamin regime which has kept me healthy. In fact, I am healthier now than I have been in years due to taking the vitamins. Please DO NOT take away my rights!

I am very concerned that my STRS will be taken away from me because I am not vaccinated. I DO NOT want to be discriminated against because of not being vaccinated. My fear is that STRS will force its members to be vaccinated. I spent 35 years in education as a teacher's-aide and Art teacher. I worked hard to earn my retirement benefits.

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

Sincerely, Susan Marie (Cholodewitsch) Nugent