

August 15, 2021

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

Thank you for the opportunity to provide proponent testimony on House Bill 248. My name is Jennifer Brooks, and I am a Pediatric Nurse (RN) employed in one of the largest Children's Hospitals in Ohio. I strongly support House Bill 248 for many reasons. Mandating vaccines would be a dangerous slippery slope where people will lose medical freedom and the ability to weigh benefit versus risk in making informed medical decisions.

I only have sight in one of my eyes. My "good" eye has been effected by numerous surgeries and chronic conditions, and I am very dependent on wearing a contact lens to function at my best. I am not comfortable receiving a vaccine that could potentially have an adverse effect to my eyesight or compromise my ability to wear my contact lens. (There have been numerous documented adverse reactions effecting people's eyesight after receiving this vaccine, as well as neuro / muscular disorders that could effect my ability to insert, remove, care for, and wear a contact lens.)

I am not comfortable taking the Covid vaccine due to the above medical reason, and I am also not comfortable taking it due to my religious beliefs.

I love my job, and I'm good at it. The thought of having my career potentially ended because of a mandated vaccine is disturbing, shocking, and heartbreaking.

Segregating groups of people based on vaccination status should have no place in society – in the workplace or out.

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

Sincerely,
Jennifer Brooks, BSN, RN