

August 16, 2021

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

Firstly, thank you for serving our great state and calling this committee back for a special hearing during an especially emotional and stressful time for those in the healthcare profession. My name is Kylie Turner and I live in Versailles, Ohio. I wanted to take this opportunity to share my story on the recent vaccine mandates announced this month and the critical need for the passage of Substitute House Bill 248.

I am an RN but currently stay at home taking care of my little ones. I have three little girls and am pregnant with our 4th child. I work as needed at our school as a school nurse and am fearful that if this mandate sticks, it will trickle down to every field of nursing. In the near future, I plan to look for another nursing job but am highly opposed to this vaccine. With a refusal to get the vaccine, I believe I will find it hard to find a nursing job. First and foremost, I am currently expecting and then will be nursing our little ones for 1-2 years. I do not feel comfortable getting this experimental vaccine while pregnant/nursing. Secondly, this vaccine has been rushed through approval, including research, development and trial periods. There have been multiple stories, hidden by the mainstream media, of individuals with vaccine injury due to the Covid vaccine. Lastly, I have had the covid virus last year and believe that I have antibodies from this virus regardless of what any tests shows. I believe that I am young and healthy enough that my immune system could fight any virus that I may come upon.

Substitute House Bill 248 ensure that employees in Ohio are afforded the freedom from forced vaccinations or mandates by employers, acting as long arms of the law. This language establishes exemptions from vaccines that allow individuals to opt out of a vaccination without repercussion or

penalty, knowing that these decisions are personal and often based on deeply-held religious beliefs or personal medical preferences. Please understand that these are careers, livelihoods, and personal passions that many of us are willing to sacrifice for personal liberties and freedoms. My former coworkers and myself don't want to walk out on the patients that we serve. We have put many years of blood, sweat and tears into our jobs. However, we deserve to make the educated, personal decisions for our own healthcare that others are afforded everyday through protections granted by legislative bodies in various facets of government. This is no different.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony to Sub-House Bill 248, a bill that I strongly support and feel is imperative to be considered. Please contact me with any further follow-up or questions.

Sincerely,

Kylie Turner, RN