

August 17, 2021

Chairman Libbs, 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 Cindy Southard and I am an accountant with Premier Health in Dayton and have been for the past 20 years. I support House Bill 248 because no one should be allowed to mandate anyone to wear a face mask or take an experimental injection that hasn't had long-term clinicals or associated long-term safety data available for informed consent.

My fellow co-workers and I were informed on August 5th that we are to be fully "vaccinated" by December 1st or we will be "Voluntarily Terminated". The COVID shots are not vaccines as they do not have a dead or weakened COVID virus included which would train our immune systems on how to attack it. The MRNA in the Pfizer and Moderna shots have never been used on humans before now. We are not experiments! Johnson & Johnson cannot even make a safe baby powder or sunscreen which is a serious cause for concern in taking their injection.

No one should be able to force anyone to wear a mask, which is questionable if they are even effective, and no employer should be able to hold an employee's job over their head in order for them to consent to a COVID shot. **Coercion is not consent!**

I contacted the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services to see if those who are "Voluntarily Terminated" would be eligible for unemployment and the answer was no since "Voluntarily Terminated" equates to "I quit". I am not quitting my job and have been a loyal employee throughout my 20 years of employment, but I would be let go for this reason. I also work from home which doesn't matter since this mandate is system-wide.

There are many employees in the state who cannot afford to lose their jobs, but do not want the shot. They are being coerced which I would think is illegal. We should definitely have the right to decide what is being injected into our bodies without fear of being unemployed for standing up for that right.

I fear for the future if HB248 doesn't pass. What else could Ohioans be coerced to do or face negative consequences? There should be no exceptions in this bill. Any COVID mandate should be illegal for all entities - schools and the healthcare industry included. We live in America where medical freedom is a right, but it is being taken away. We must stand up against this medical tyranny!

Thank you once again for this opportunity to provide testimony on the need for and urgency of this bill. I implore you to do what is right for the people of Ohio and support HB248 with no exceptions!

Sincerely,



Cindy Southard