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Dear Chairman Lipps and members of the Ohio Health committee:

I am submitting my testimony in favor of HB 248 because I do not believe that people should be forced to choose between what is best for their health and their employment, education or other opportunities. This is especially true because those who are advocating for mandatory vaccinations mistakenly hold to the notion that vaccines are always safe end effective in preventing the spread of infection and are ultimately the only way to prevent serious illness and disease. There are however other aspects of the COVID pandemic and the COVID vaccine (as well as other vaccines) that appear to be hidden.

By now, as it relates to preventing infection, it is virtually common knowledge that the COVID vaccine does not prevent transmission of the disease. This is evidenced by the controversy that surrounds the issue of the requirement to wear masks, even after being fully vaccinated. I would think that this ambiguity alone should be reason enough to question the necessity of mandatory vaccinations.

Yet there are those who are still promoting the concept of achieving "herd immunity," which I find difficult to grasp if even after being vaccinated you can still carry and spread the disease. This

contradiction, however, seems either to be ignored or disregarded when it comes to promoting vaccinations. In light of this, it is beyond my comprehension as to why anyone would require vaccines if they are not effective in eradicating disease.

I assume, therefore, that the logic behind forced vaccinations lies in the belief that they are effective In preventing serious illness and death. While in some cases, this may be true, there are other cases in which it is not. And in fact, may even cause mild to serious illness which may lead to death or other chronic health problems. But the information regarding these scenarios is rather difficult to come by. This may be due to the fact that media outlets such as the AP, Facebook, Google, the BBC, you Tube, Twitter and the Washington Post (among others) have all come into an agreement called the Trusted News Initiative. Apparantly this was recently constructed for the supposed benefit of "combating the spread of harmful vaccine information." While this appears to be a noble goal, I believe this initiative has the potential to compromise the ability of these news sources to provide fair and objective reporting. I am also left to wonder how the objective to eliminate disinformation by these organizations is being achieved.

Fortunately, I do not rely solely on these news sources. I have learned from other sources that there

are highly effective and life saving treatments that some doctors have been using to treat COVID. These treatments include the use of hyperbaric oxygen therapy, the drug (vermectin, monoclonal antibodies and nebulized Budesonide, among others. It is, to say the least, extremely unfortunate, especially for those who have lost their lives that little if any information regarding these treatments has been reported by any mainstream news source. If anything, I suspect that these treatments have been censored, just as the number of injury and deaths which may be linked to receiving the vaccine have been.

But this appears to be nothing new. I have reason to believe that the vaccinations I received as a child are at least partially responsible for triggering an autoimmune response in my body which led to the development of lupus and other chronic health conditions. And I have experienced great loss and suffering as a result. Although not directly related to vaccinations, one of the conditions I suffered from was an impaired immune system. For many years I had to deal with susceptibility to infections but I have found that there are actually many ways to deal with them, including developing a healthy respect for microorganisms, and employing simple hygiene methods along with taking nutritional supplements. I attribute my faith in God along with the use of these methods to my success

in being able to overcome a number of infections, including COVID.

The key point of my testimony is that so far, I have been able to maintain my health by the choices I have made despite many chronic health conditions of which I have reason to believe may have been triggered by receiving vaccinations. I do not believe that further vaccination would be beneficial to my health, but rather a detriment.

Furthermore, if health care workers who are testifying in favor of vaccinations are doing so because of their experiences of people dying from COVID, I would expect them to be outraged by the suppression of information that may have saved their lives had it been made available and administered sooner. I have also had a traumatic and extremely frustrating experience with a relative who was hospitalized with COVID. After I had called the hospital to request that they try one of the treatments I mentioned, I was told that they were aware of it and the studies on it but that the drug was not part of their formulary.

There are two obvious viewpoints when it comes to the opinion on HB 248. One is of the belief that opposing it is necessary to maintain public health. The other is that the individual freedom of choice that this country was founded on is of primary importance. There may be a third interest which is not so

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obvious and that is one of greed. I hope that in this case, those who oppose HB 248 will realize that a vote in favor does not, essentially , jeopardize public health but may actually preserve it-along with the rights that we should have as US citizens and human beings to decide how we want to take care of our health. Please vote yes on HB 248.

Thank You, Correrice Thurk

Catherine Nowak

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