

**Chairman Cutrona, Vice Chair Gross, Ranking Member Somani, and members of the Health Provider Services Committee, thank you for allowing me to provide support testimony for HB 319; “The Conscientious Right to Refuse Act.”**

**In a free society we must maintain the right to liberty and bodily autonomy. No one should ever be forced or coerced into putting something into their body against their will.**

**Who will decide what is good or bad for each of us next? Today you may agree with a mandate, but what if you disagree with the next mandate? What if it's mandated by someone you distrust. I remember hearing the VP say she wouldn't take the vaccine if Trump was behind it as President.**

**We are entitled to make those decisions for ourselves as free individuals. Everyone deserves full informed consent without threats of negative consequences. As a doctor, I understand that all treatment must be done with the patient's full consent and all risks and benefits must be explained in advance. The idea of mandating any procedure, especially anything experimental, is beyond belief in a free society. Without medical freedom we are all at risk of becoming forced to do or take anything against our will.**

**Today we are told to be inclusive to certain groups of people, but we are also told to shun those of us who are medically unable to take vaccines or who are objecting for any number of reasons. This is a double standard and the exact opposite of being inclusive. Without medical freedom, there is NO freedom. The people who are mandating medical procedures are NOT doctors; and even if they were, they are not YOUR doctor and they have no authority to mandate anything. This is practicing medicine without a license in the case of many. Even if a doctor recommends a treatment for their patient, that patient still has every right to refuse the recommendation. This happens every day. We have the right to refuse any treatment that goes against our personal beliefs or choice. We have the right to get a second or third opinion and ultimately decide for ourselves.**

**"My body, my choice." This goes farther than the mantra used by the pro-choice groups. This is not just saying a doctor CANNOT do something to your body (abortion); it's mandating that you DO SOMETHING to yourself against your will (inject). The vaccine is not reversible once it is injected and science is now telling us that the risks outweigh any benefit. This takes it much further, when forcing procedures on someone vs. denying a procedure by a doctor. The American Disabilities Act clearly states that you cannot do this. Our constitution clearly outlines that you cannot mandate medical procedures in a free society. The Nuremberg Code also clearly states the boundaries that cannot be crossed by a doctor, let alone the Dean of a college or your boss who has no knowledge, authority or license to make those medical mandates. Unless the person requiring the mandate is able to take full responsibility for any negative outcomes that occur as a result, there should always be a choice. That choice should be made freely and without any negative consequences.**

**There are many people who may be genetically at risk, and so much more study is needed before telling the public these vaccines are safe and effective. It is not informed consent to boldly state an opinion without facts-- as many politicians and celebrities were paid to do. The latest studies are showing increased myocarditis, increased miscarriage rates, and increased sudden deaths. Who will be responsible for those who pay the price for their uneducated opinions? We must further investigate, and also understand that no one should be responsible for anyone else's health but their own. Everyone has the right to choose how they remain healthy or even if they choose not to be healthy. We cannot force people to eat healthy foods or exercise either. What one person feels is healthy, another may feel is dangerous. It is a free country and must remain as such. If vaccines work, then it doesn't matter if others choose not to comply. Herd immunity always used to be around 45%, plus those with natural immunity. Natural immunity was always considered more robust and long lasting. All of that science was ignored because of politics and financial incentives.**

**I have personally witnessed hundreds of patients traumatized by the mandates during the pandemic. They were in tears daily, telling me stories about job loss, family feuds, mental breakdowns and suicides, drug abuse, loss of income/business, childhood delays, parents alone in nursing homes and college kids protesting over vaccine mandates and forced to lose scholarships or transfer schools. The grant money attached to many of these mandates is now revealed and even more upsetting to most people. The truth will be fully revealed and it's time to get behind these bills that will protect your constituents going forward. We cannot repeat this ever again. The people are becoming very much aware of the money attached to all of this and the reasons for the push for mandates. Insurance companies were paying doctors huge sums to comply, and colleges were also getting grants after agreeing to follow mandates. Hospitals were paid more to push certain drugs that were actually more expensive and dangerous than those which actually worked.**

**It is sad that many states have removed all exemptions, or made medical exemptions impossible to get without doctors risking their licenses. Ohio has always had all three exemptions, and we should be proud of that. However those exemptions did not apply to those outside of the K-12 groups. So many adults have become victims of a forced injection that has destroyed their lives with absolutely no recourse. Everyone deserves the right to refuse any and all medical procedures if they so choose. While many will say, "they already can refuse and no one is forced", may I remind you that there were dire consequences attached. Many lost their jobs, businesses, ability to attend functions, and even their licenses. I know doctors who had to retire and get out of the insurance system to uphold their beliefs.**

**It's sad that we have to create a bill to protect our freedom, but it is absolutely necessary to prevent further harm. The next thing that is mandated may be something that affects you personally.**

**The right of conscience and religion is the bare minimum protection that every citizen in the USA and Ohio should have.**

**Please vote yes on HB 319. We must protect against future abuses. The people are becoming very much aware of what was pushing all of the mandates. It was not public health; it was financial incentives.**

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