

Chairman Lipps, 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 Kristina Ambrosia-Conn and I am an instructional designer at a nursing school, former college English professor, entrepreneur, world traveler and single mom. In spite of almost losing my mom in March of 2020 due to Covid (she was hospitalized for 42 days and on a vent for 2 weeks) I support House Bill 248. Yes, I think science is real, and yes I am very left-leaning politically speaking, but I do believe that it is my body and thus my choice to make a decision about what I am putting in it without feeling like I'm going to be side-lined, publicly branded with the anti-vacc scarlet letter, or denied the ability to attend large gatherings/travel. I am NOT anti-all vaccinations, just ones where I feel like more time/research/testing needs to go into the process before I feel comfortable as a 'low risk' person taking the vaccinations. I have encouraged both my parents to get the vaccine because of their unique health risks; however, I don't believe this 'one size fits all' peer pressure to vaccinate is warranted and especially not for our youth (where side effects to things like girl's reproductive systems can't be known yet!) Let the people who want to vaccinate, vaccinate and feel good with their choice. If the vaccinations work they are protected from those of us who 'don't/won't' vaccinate anyway so seems pretty much like a win-win - people who feel as if it is their best interest to vaccinate can and do, and those of us who need more time/information to feel comfortable making that decision our afforded that right as well.

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

Sincerely,

Kristina Ambrosia-Conn