

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 Melissa Blask and I am a mom, architectural draftsman, and photographer. The reason I support House Bill 248 is because it is my body and my choice of what I put inside of it. My body is not the governments property. I should not be discriminated against for making my own medical decisions.

If these bills are not supported, where will they stop discriminating against people? We grow up being urged to not discriminate against people based on their gender, skin color, and sexual orientation – how is discriminating against them based on their medical choices any better? As can easily be seen in the practice of Psychology and giving patient meds – they need to be switched up a lot until they find the one that is right for THEM – this shows us that not all medications/vaccinations/procedures are right for EVERYONE. We are all different and all have different genetics – no two people are the same. Therefore, requiring everyone to be injected with the same thing makes no sense. We all deserve the right to choose what we put in our body. It is no ones place to judge anyone else for what their choices are – we all make our decisions for different reasons. Our differences is what makes the world go around. Let's celebrate those differences... Let's actually ALLOW people to embrace their differences by allowing them to choose what they feel is best for their own body. This also includes NOT requiring people to wear a scarlet letter just because they are different than you (IE: Show a vaccination card/wear a mask if they are not vaccinated). That merely points out that someone is different and opens them up to ridicule and bullying...something we have been doing our best, as a society, to limit/get rid of for years!

If we were to require vaccine passports and 100% vaccinations (because they are healthy/done to keep the health), why would we not mandate people EAT healthy and take vitamins as well? It is all inclusive, people need to do ALL the healthy things to BE healthy. If we mandate people eat healthy and take vitamins, we will be either banning large fast food chains or requiring them to change their menus to be healthy...That isn't going to fly - People want the CHOICE to eat what they choose no matter if 'that person over there' says it's healthy or not...why can't they have the choice to decide what other things they inject into their bodies as well?

It's all about choices. We ALL want and DESERVE choices. We had the choice and we elected YOU. Please let us continue to CHOOSE what is best for our own bodies and not be ridiculed for it.

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

Sincerely,

Melissa Blask