

May 22, 2021

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 Elena Golsch and I am a mother of two college students and a chiropractic assistant for my husband's practice. The reason I support House Bill 248 is because for many years raising our children and taking pride in the holistic approach of healthcare that living in this great free nation has allowed us, we have come to the crossroads of losing those liberties. I know that I speak for many other parents in the same situation. Our children have grown up in both private Christian schools and public schools. We have always been blessed with the ability to utilize our philosophical/religious exemptions in regards to the "required" vaccinations. We have never been treated as "outcasts" or "disease-ridden" because of our personal choices. I do have to add that our children now 18 and almost 20 are extremely healthy with no chronic health issues or having to be on any medications. They take pride in their abilities and upbringing of good nutrition, supplementation, and exercise in order to keep them in this good health. Our daughter swam this year for her high school at the state swim meet!

Specifically, our daughter will be a freshman at The Ohio State University next fall. I am deeply concerned with the level of overreach and unnecessary restriction President Kristina Johnson is, even at this point, announcing for the fall. She is basically segregating and discriminating against those students that do not want to take this Covid vaccine. Also, she is asking students to divulge their private vaccine status. At one time I would truly be excited for my daughter to attend OSU, but at this point, I am diligently trying to convince her to attend a university that she was accepted at in Florida. It is a truly sad day when a parent would rather their child be farther away from them than 2 hours just so they can be treated with respect and equally if they choose not to vaccinate. What is happening in this state and at universities across the nation is unconstitutional. This virus has very little effect on college students and the fact that they are being treated as "super spreaders," etc. is wrong. We must be afforded our choice and our privacy when it comes to medical decisions.

My husband has been in chiropractic practice for over 35 years. We are both (I will be in September) 60 years old. Neither of us have any health conditions, on any medications, and are active in maintaining good health. Our children have been brought up the same. To force a medical procedure that has had no long term studies done on it, is criminal toward any citizen of this state or country.

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

Sincerely,

Elena M. Golsch  
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