

Ohio Rep:

I am writing as a concerned pregnant mother of a 4 year old, as a working registered nurse and an Ohio citizen. I am deeply troubled by the handling of the covid "epidemic". I have spent nearly \$1000 in childcare expenses that went unused because my daycare has been forced to close either due to an unconstitutional lock down or due to covid exposure. My daycare recently closed because 1 worker tested positive 10 days ago. Over this past weekend a child that attended the same daycare was tested positive for covid so the daycare was forced to close yet again for another 2 days even though none of the children had seen each other in the 10 day period. Not only did I still have to pay childcare expenses I was also forced to miss work and ask family members to miss work to help watch my child. I was also informed that any child that even has JUST a runny nose must stay home get tested and if they test positive they have to quarantine and retest until they test negative. Now I am an educated woman working as a RN and if my patients test positive and are outside of the quarantine window we NEVER retest within 30day because there is a HIGH likelihood you will still test positive and NOT BE CONTAGIOUS. These "rules" are erroneous and arbitrary to say the least.

House Bill HB248 which proposes vaccine choice and prohibits discrimination against those who chose not to take the covid vaccine or any vaccine for that matter MUST be passed. There are so many reasons why someone may choose not to participate in an experimental vaccine especially given the current climate and distrust in government mandates and policies enacted on citizens in the past 16months. As a pregnant woman I find it offensive to be treated differently for my choice to do what I feel is safest for my unborn child and myself. My highly regarded OB also agrees that the risk of covid upon a young healthy mother is much lower than the possible consequences of this experimental vaccine. It is not right that my breathing should be restricted by a mask simply because I chose not to get the vaccine. If this vaccine is so successful how do I pose a risk to anyone vaccinated? What about people who have legitimate mental and physical health restrictions preventing them from taking the vaccine? How is it that in the state of Ohio you can legally terminate a pregnancy i.e. murder a fetus but the same politicians who support pro-choice want to take away my choice not to vaccinate?

I have been in healthcare for my entire adult life which is a little over 15 years and have always played by the "rules". These "rules" include mandatory flu vaccines and if you choose for personal reasons to decline you are forced to wear a mask during flu season. I have never really questioned this mandate in the past because the flu vaccine has been widely tested and distributed for the better part of my life with little to no consequences. The flu vaccine remains mandatory but if you show flu like symptoms you can't even find a health care facility that will test you for the flu, because the flu has magically "disappeared" this year. This is not science this is nonsense.

If you want to know how your "healthcare heroes" are treated I can fill you in. We are granted ZERO paid sick days and in fact none of our policies have changed due to covid. If you miss as little as 3 days of

work in a calendar year you have placed yourself in a probationary period. Miss as many as 6 days well then you're fired.

My fellow colleagues were randomly selected to have 20% of their pay decreased for 6 weeks last summer and for the better part of a year we were told that due to the covid crisis the hospital could no longer match our 401k.

Picture being 6 months pregnant, wearing a mask and lifting/wheeling morbidly obese patients. Now picture doing this with no lunch or scheduled breaks....thats how your "heros" are treated. Now imagine coming down with the common cold and being told because you sneezed and coughed you are risk of having the dreaded plague...you are now forced to go home for 2 weeks without pay and these absences are used against you.

Now let's discuss my poor daughter who is likely going to have a complex from seeing people in masks and discussing the doom and gloom of the covid "crisis". She has not enjoyed the pleasure of going to a museum, zoo, party, playdate, library, restaurant or movie in well over a year because I find it to be CHILD ABUSE to force a mask on that precious face. She had to go weeks without seeing her father because he worked like a dog day and night to build a temporary hospital that costs millions of dollars that was NEVER used by a SINGLE patient.

I would like to end this by saying that if your "mandates" and restrictions are put in place to increase unemployment, force working parents out of jobs, create physical and psychological damage, drain the pockets of hard working Americans and cause civil unrest between communities and families, BRAVO you have done an AMAZING JOB!

Special thanks to governor Mike Dewine, enjoy living in your multimillion dollar estate while the rest of us struggle to survive.

I appreciate your efforts to have mandates lifted as well as propose legislation that prohibits vaccine discrimination as it is a major cause of anxiety, anger and resentment in my life. It's a constant reminder that I have no control over my own body and I am being controlled unconstitutionally by governor Dewine.

Sincerely

Colleen Gray