

Written Testimony in Support of HB248 and Amendments

Dawn C. Kosec

Chairman Lipps, Vice Chair Holmes, Ranking Member Russo, and Members of the House Health Committee, thank you for this opportunity to provide written testimony on HB248.

My name is Dawn Kosec and I work in collections at Youngstown State University. I support HB248 because I believe that although vaccines are important in society, humans are not carbon copies of each other, thus exemptions must be allowed in regard to pre-existing medical conditions and in order for healthy individuals to remain healthy.

My personal story is that although I made healthy choices – such as being vegetarian – I suffered with serious breathing issues for many years and was misdiagnosed three times by different doctors. I finally took medication that relieved my symptoms, although there was a rare possibility of a severe side effect: stroke. Then I had a stroke. I finally found a specialist that didn't require a "referral," and he immediately diagnosed me with asthma and gave me an inhaler. Since that time, aside from my inhaler, I don't take any medication at all. Period. Now that I have been correctly diagnosed, I remain healthy by making healthy choices: being vegetarian and using natural alternatives to traditional medicine such as chiropractic care or homeopathic remedies (which have zero side effects!)

I understand that the concern with COVID (and the variants) is that it is highly contagious; however, I would much rather keep within my small social circle, wear a mask in public, and not travel, than to expose myself to chemicals that could cause another stroke. If I agreed to take a vaccine, and had a stroke, who would care for me? Who would care for my mother if I am supposed to be her caretaker? It seems to me that the only group of people that is enjoying 100% immunity is the drug companies!

I am currently aware of ten people that do not want the vaccine for various reasons: They are all different ages and are both Democrat and Republican. This is NOT about politics, religion, or conspiracy theories! It is about health!

Thank you once again for this opportunity to provide testimony on the need for HB248.

Sincerely,

Dawn C. Kosec