

05/19/2021

Chairman Lipps, Vice Chair Holmes, Ranking Member Russo, and Members of the House Health Committee,

I am providing my written testimony in support of quick passage of HB 248.

My employer has for weeks now been sending out workplace polls asking if we are going to accept the Covid19 inoculation (I can provide screenshots of the poll if you wish). If an employee responds “no,” the poll then changes and adds a question asking for the reason. Of course, they are asking only so they can “better address the negativity surrounding the vaccine.” There is no reason an employer would need to address any negativity unless they plan on making it mandatory and have to convince employees to accept it before having to force them to as a condition of employment. There is no reason an employer would need to know inoculation status unless there is a plan to segregate or otherwise treat differently those who have vs. those who haven’t.

My employer also emails weekly videos with cartoons telling how safe and effective the inoculation is, and that it’s the way to “get back to a normal workplace.”

There are many reasons why an individual may decline the vaccine. It is not the business of anyone, neither public nor private entity, as to why someone accepted or declined it.

I have several personal acquaintances who have received the inoculation and have developed symptoms from gout, to appendages no longer working, to brain injury. I myself fear the inoculation because I have an issue of constant tendon inflammation, and there are hundreds – if not thousands – of reports of the inoculation leading to heart attacks and other maladies due to inflammation it’s caused.

Because of the weekly barrage of Covid19-related contact from my employer, I fear I will lose my means to support myself if HB 248 is not passed swiftly. Because of the endless fear-mongering on the part of the Governor I fear that my ability to secure food in public grocery stores is threatened. I fear that I will no longer be able to seek medical treatment. I fear that I will no longer be able to participate in any way in society and will be seen as an outcast, dirty and diseased.

The antics of Governor Dewine on the evening of May 12, 2021 show that he does not have the best interest of Ohioans at heart and he continues to play the games that he’s played throughout this past year. He promised to lift most mandates June 2, yet SB22 was coming into effect anyway. He’s implementing a lottery and asking Ohioans to risk their health with a chance to win money while he holds stock in Pfizer and stands to profit from an increase in inoculations administered. And though he has stated he will lift the mandates there is no doubt that he will implement them again in the Fall when normal cold and flu season returns and I fear that the iron fist will be even heavier then and will include pounding mandatory inoculations into Ohioans who neither want, nor need, or could even die from them.

Sincerely,

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