

Dear 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 Lisa Farwick and I am a stay at home mom and wife. The reason I support House Bill 248 is because making choices about vaccines for my family should remain a personal right and liberty. The covid vaccine in particular is so new that I am concerned about the long term side effects that have yet to be studied. I also chose to treat my family at home from illness we had, which we think was covid. The risks of the vaccine are greater than the protection it would give my family. The covid antibodies are just being studied and I read in major news outlets this week that the immunity could be life-long. I do not want to inject foreign bodies in myself or my children when our body is doing it's job fighting off this particular virus already. I understand the risk of the virus to especially the older population as my husband's grandfather passed away from covid at age 93. But, I do not think this should be mandated as each person can be offered the vaccine or other therapeutics as they are shown to be effective as well.

Of great concern is the idea of a vaccine passport in our great state. Our family chose not to vaccinate for covid-19 because we are low risk and we believe we have the antibodies from the virus. We strongly oppose allowing vaccine passports in Ohio. My husband works in an office and due to his choice and his doctor's recommendation he is not vaccinating. This should not be forced on him in order to do his job.

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

Sincerely,
Lisa Farwick