

June 1, 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 Donald R. Harris, PT, DPT. I am a Doctor of Physical Therapy with 42 years of experience. I support HB 248 for various reasons. I do not believe that people should be forced or shamed into taking an experimental vaccine that is not FDA approved and one that has already resulted in thousands of Urgent Care visits, hospitalizations, and deaths. The survival rate for COVID-19 is 99.7% and this does not justify the actions we have seen from the media and politicians. During the past year we have witnessed psychological manipulation of our population in Ohio by the media, our governor and the Ohio Health Department.

There are many legitimate reasons for not taking this experimental vaccine and people who do not take it should not be treated unfairly or discriminated against in public or in their jobs. They should not lose their jobs, be segregated or humiliated. People with medical conditions should not be forced to go against medical advice in order to stay employed. Most people have been convinced that somebody like myself should be running out to get the vaccine due to my age and medical history. They do not know the reactions I have had recently to common medications and other standard health care. Based on the reported reactions to the experimental vaccine, I stand a much higher chance of problems with the vaccine than getting the actual COVID-19. Also, my sister who is a year younger already has full anti-body protection from having the COVID-19 and they want to shame her for not getting the vaccine. She is a nurse and knows that you do not vaccinate somebody who already has natural anti-bodies.

Thank you for allowing me to provide testimony for HB 248.

Sincerely,

Dr. Donald R. Harris, PT, DPT