

May 22, 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 Jamie Koluch and I am a married woman who is a stay at home mom to our two precious children. The reason I support House Bill 248 is because the United States of America was built on Freedom. In this case, Freedom to choose what is right for ones own body and as a parent what is best for our children.

In the past, we have vaccinated our children because we thought that's what we should do. But upon further research, they go against our religious beliefs. Because they they go against our religious beliefs, me and my husband have made the decision to no longer vaccinate our children.

I know we are not alone in our reasoning and beliefs. I am also aware that we could be labeled "anti-vaxxers". I believe that term is completely unfair. I do not believe anyone should not be allowed to get vaccinated if they believe that is what is right for them. Again, there's that word, "choice".

If this Bill is not passed, a lot of our Freedom to choose will be taken from me, my family and a lot of other families. It worries me that we would be discriminated against or even turned away from being able to go grocery shopping because we have chosen not to get this latest vaccine that goes against our religious beliefs. Not only could we be turned away from grocery shopping, but would my husband lose his job for not getting this new vaccine?

I humbly ask you all to please consider me, my family and all the other families like us and how it will affect our live when voting on whether to pass this Bill or not.

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

Sincerely,

Jamie Koluch

Lucas Co.