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The Office of Health Committee Chair Lipps

Re: HB24 Testimony

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

Thank you for the opportunity to provide proponent testimony for House Bill 248.

My name is Sarah Reid and I am a mother, a wife and I work in third party quality management for a pharmaceutical company. I support House Bill 248, because I believe that all humans have the right to make decisions regarding their health and their children's health without fear of intimidation, discrimination or reprisal for their health choices.

Regardless of whether we agree with an individual's decision to receive a vaccine (or any other form of medical care, it is not the place of the government, an employer, a business or a school to make that decision for them. The Ohio legislature must take action to uphold the belief that individuals have the basic human right to determine what goes into their bodies. These decisions should be between a patient and physician and must include the right to both informed consent and informed refusal.

There are many reasons why someone might decline any vaccine. Among the most common are religious conviction, history of a prior vaccine injury/reaction, pre-existing medical conditions and concerns over safety data.

It is unethical and immoral to mandate **any** vaccination, (especially ones which have been fast-tracked and have not been approved for regular use) or to limit a citizen's ability to work, receive an education or participate in normal society based on their acceptance of an experimental medical intervention. Further, vaccination status along with all other medical information is and should continue to be covered by medical privacy protections, which should not be infringed for any reason.

If we do not have the right to our own privacy, regarding both our medical choices and our health information, what rights do we have? I believe this will set a precedent for further erosion of our privacy and a medically segregated future, which completely goes against American sovereignty.

A close family member living in Ohio told me, yesterday, that her hair salon will only be accepting clients who are fully vaccinated. Additionally, all clients must show proof of vaccination prior to entry. This is not the kind of Ohio or the kind of America where I want to raise my family. Please vote to protect all Ohioans from this type of discriminatory practice.

I urge you to uphold our medical freedom and vote yes on House Bill 248.

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

Sincerely,
Sarah Reid

cc: Representative Gross