

May 27, 2021

Re: Support for HB 248

Chair P. Scott Lipps and Vice Chair Adam Holmes  
Ohio House Committee on Health  
77 South High Street, 13th Floor  
Columbus, OH 43215

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

I am writing today to implore you to vote yes for HB248. I really cannot believe we are even having this discussion but here we are.

Some give the rationale that this is a public health threat. But I ask how much of a threat is required to justify forcing people to accept risks? Anything that comes with risk should be a personal individual choice. This virus, depending on age and comorbidities, is highly survivable. Data from the CDC website will show that there is over a 98% chance of survival. This is from the numbers we know. This number is likely higher as there are many more people out there that may have had it but were not diagnosed. The risk: benefit ratio varies with the frequency and severity of disease, vaccine safety, and individual patient factors. These must be evaluated by patient and physician, not imposed by government, corporations, or other bureaucrats.

Texas Senator Bob Hall, senate committee of state affairs, quoted some statistics from the VAERS reporting system. There were 85 total deaths from vaccines reported in 2017, 119 in 2018, and 203 in 2019. In comparison From Dec 2020-April 23<sup>rd</sup> 2021 there were 3362 reported deaths from the Covid 19 shots. That is 30 people per day. It is also more deaths during this 4 month period for "vaccines" for one virus then deaths from all vaccines in the 15 year period from 1997-2013. Plus almost 1000 heart attacks and over 8000 hospitalizations were reported in the same 4 month period from these so called vaccines. Another comparison he gave was from 2007-2015 there was only 1 death reported for the meningitis vaccine. Link to video of hearing, <https://youtu.be/hSaCYVU6zH4>

The Covid 19 "vaccines" are not FDA approved. They have been authorized for emergency use only. This means they cannot be lawfully mandated. There are really 2 issues with this. First they have not gone through the normal rigorous testing to become approved. We are still collecting data on long term effects. Second a vaccine that is authorized for emergency and not fully approved cannot be mandated legally. Federal law, 21 U.S. Code § 360bbb-3(e)(ii)(III), requires that individuals must be provided "the option to accept or refuse administration" of any product available under an Emergency Use Authorization.

So I ask how are companies mandating their employees receive these shots as a condition of employment? Is this not illegal? It is definitely wrong for a company to make a personal health decision that could have long lasting consequences for an individual.

For every doctor or expert that says they are safe I can give you one that says they are not. No one really knows at this point the true magnitude or consequences of this decision. There are many highly respected doctors that are raising questions about the safety and long term effects of these shots. There are also treatments for Covid 19 that many doctors have had success with.

This is being used to divide our country. We cannot let that happen. The unvaccinated are becoming a 2<sup>nd</sup> class citizen. The right to live and prosper in general society should not be on condition of your vaccine status. This is unethical, unconstitutional, un-American and just plain wrong. A new form of discrimination is being forced on us and we cannot let it happen.

These and many other reasons are why vaccine passports or mandates cannot be allowed via government or private sectors. Unvaccinated persons with no exposure to a disease and no evidence of a disease are not a clear or present danger. I urge the committee to please support HB 248 to protect Ohioans from mandates that do more harm than good. Making the COVID, and other vaccines, optional is the only way to protect the medical and individual rights of our citizens, consistent with good medical ethics.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Respectfully yours,

Bobbie Riffe, Restaurant Owner and Concerned Citizen