

Azure Stephens, Proponent  
HB248 — Health Committee  
5/23/21

Chairman Lipps, Vice Chair Holmes, Ranking Member Russo, and Members of the House Health Committee, thank you for the opportunity to present my proponent testimony for House Bill 248.

My name is Azure Stephens. I am a sister, a daughter, a friend, and a member of a strong community of people who care about health. I'm here today representing myself and all of the people I care about.

This topic is one of the most important things I have ever been aware of. I never thought I would be in a position where the freedom to make private health decisions would be jeopardized. And yet here we are.

I will be candid. I do not want to take any of these shots. I know they will not improve my health, which is something I choose to view differently than other people. I am confident that with diet, nutrition, lifestyle, and attitude I can keep myself healthy. It doesn't even matter if I'm wrong. I take full responsibility for my health and I accept all consequences of my actions.

Something I'm sure about is that these shots are hurting and killing people. VAERS has thousands of reports. Sure, maybe it's not many statistically, yet. Don't forget that this is completely experimental and we do not know what longer term effects will be. But there is most definitely risk associated with these products and where there is risk there is choice.

The concept of a "vaccine passport" is so deeply disturbing to me. If we start going down this road — one where our health status is made public and determines our acceptance — it will be very difficult to go back. We must not let it happen.

I'd also like to add, as a tax-paying citizen of Ohio, if invasive measures or discriminatory actions are taken against me I will move elsewhere where my health freedom is respected. I know of a lot of other people who feel the same. I really like Ohio! Please protect my rights so I can stay here.

I, and anyone, should be able to choose not to participate in this medical experiment without societal repercussions. Please, I stand here to today to ask you to vote yes on House Bill 248. Thank you.