

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 Tabitha Sweene and I am a stay at home mom. The reason I support House Bill 248 is because I believe in body autonomy and that medical choices should be just that....choices. No government, business, school or employer should be able to dictate to American's what they have to inject into their bodies in order to work, shop, get an education, or live. American's should be free to make their own healthcare decisions. Vaccine's come with a risk, therefore they must also come with a choice. My daughter is a college student and she should not have to choose between an injection or finishing her degree. She has a job this summer that is discriminating against her by making her mask because she has chosen to make her own health decisions and has not submitted to vaccination. How is it ok to treat some people like they are transmitters of disease? How is it ok to have employee's singled out and marked with masks of shame? My husband is a machine repairman and is already facing discrimination from his employer over the vaccine. They are being threatened with the continuation of masking and further discriminatory practices if they refuse to submit their private medical records stating they have been vaccinated. His place of employment has had under 10 covid cases and not one death, yet they are being told they have to submit to an injection where long term studies are non existent. I have a friend who's husband submitted to vaccination under duress of being told he had to continue to mask and pay a substantial amount more for health insurance because he had not been vaccinated. Pharmaceutical companies can't be held liable for any effects of the vaccine. How can companies discriminate against people who choose to wait, or not receive these injections based on their own health or moral choices? Ohioan's are facing bullying and discrimination every day over their own health decisions. We need HB 248 quickly! For all these reasons I hope you will support HB 248.

Thank you for your consideration,
Tabitha Sweene