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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 Eileen Wickes and I am a stay at home mom to our 8 year old daughter, Casey Mae. I am writing to you in SUPPORT of House Bill 248. When I became pregnant with my daughter Casey, I wanted to do everything I could to make sure she and I were healthy during my pregnancy and of course after her birth. I love research and it is something I am very good at. I researched so much in those early days. What to eat, proper exercise, sleep, vaccines, child development and so much more. My research still continues today, I use it to help keep me informed and guide my family on a healthy path. Months before Casey was born I found a pediatrician who would help guide our family and support our holistic lifestyle. Dr. Garvin helped us create an alternate vaccine schedule for my daughter. Together, we created a well thought out schedule that we all felt comfortable with. A schedule that would allow her to be fully vaccinated but also spread them out over time. This FAMILY DECISION was so important to me, to be able to CHOOSE what fit my family best and have my doctors full support, has been empowering. My first cousin has two children with vaccine related autism and I know how hard they struggle. Our doctor continues to support us today. Encouraging our holistic lifestyle and providing us the best care when we need him.

When the pandemic hit, the researcher in me geared up. How would I keep my family safe? What I began to see and find, changed me. It has been incredibly difficult to find balanced information. Everything is fear based. It started with the daily death tolls. What about those that have recovered? Why weren't we hearing about those people? Personally, in my family, my 75 year old aunt and uncle both recovered, my brother-in-law recovered. My pregnant sister, who is an NP in a nursing home, **recovered**, and the baby was born healthy. Everyone I know who had the virus, RECOVERED! But we didn't hear about those people. Instead, we heard about an experimental injection. Why don't we hear about how to boost our immune systems? Or about the benefits of Ivermectin, Zinc, and Vitamin D. We are left thinking there is no option if we do end up sick. The only option is the vaccine, or so they want us to believe. There are options, however, the mainstream media will not report on those options because they are fully committed to pushing an experimental injection. When all the sources for medical information have an agenda to spin us, you wind up with a badly informed public. I will not exchange physical reality for imagined possibility. My body is me. It is the only one I have. It is not selfish to claim it as my own. **Freedom begins with bodily**

autonomy. Please help set the tone for the country and show that Ohio values its citizens Civil Liberties, including, but not limited too, their Bodily Integrity. ***Informed consent and mandates can not co-exist.***

"Bodily integrity is the inviolability of the physical body and emphasizes the importance of personal autonomy, self-ownership, and self-determination of human beings over their own bodies. In the field of human rights, violation of the bodily integrity of another is regarded as an unethical infringement, intrusive, and possibly criminal"

Sincerely,
Eileen Wickes