

May 23, 2021

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 Abbie Zoller and I am a teacher. I chose to take a leave of absence this school year to homeschool my own 3 children due to mask mandates and other covid related requirements implemented in schools this year. I hope my children can go back to school in August and I can go back to teaching, but if there are still mask mandates in place, then sadly we will not be going back. I also fear that I will be discriminated against at school for not having received the vaccine. I fear that I will be made to wear a mask since I am unvaccinated.

I choose not to get the vaccine because I have an autoimmune disease and I do not want to put my health at risk by receiving an experimental medical procedure. I support HB 248 because it will protect me from discrimination with my employer and going out to public places since I choose to not receive the vaccine for the good of my health. This bill will protect my vaccine choice and my family's vaccine choice.

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

Sincerely,

Abbie Zoller