

Testimony in support of HB248: Vaccine Choice & Anti-Discrimination Act

**Submitted by:
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Dear Chairman Lipps and members of the committee,

My name is Brandon Tebbe and I am an Ohio resident that lives in Hamilton, OH. I am a Field Service Engineer that travels to numerous businesses in Ohio for work. I will be providing feedback with my experiences and concerns regarding why I'm in support of this bill.

To start off, some of the businesses are already segregating their employees by vaccine status regarding whether or not they are required to wear a mask. At that point, the employees do not have a choice in the matter of keeping their medical privacy. I have been told "vaccinated individuals do not need to wear a mask, while unvaccinated are required" while working on some sites. You do not have a choice if you have to choose one option or the other as it gives away your status. This opens up many possibilities for discriminatory acts against employees. If the current political climate progresses, employers will mandate vaccines and cause many people to lose their livelihoods. Currently, as Ohio is a state of at will employment, there is little to no protection against this kind of discrimination.

Here are my concerns regarding current science, politics, and evidence surrounding the popular topic of the coronavirus vaccines. There is no evidence that the covid vaccines prevent transmission. You can find this information from the CDC and FDA. There is data from other highly covid vaccinated countries where the vaccinated individuals are the ones that are affected or it's a mixture of both unvaccinated and vaccinated. We are already being advised for everyone to wear masks again even if we have been vaccinated already. The hospitals are already mandating for their workers to get covid vaccinated. In Texas, the Houston Methodist Hospital is already looking to hire out of state nurses at a much higher pay rate while they had over 150 health care workers who have resigned or been fired. Hospitals are understaffed, hemorrhaging funds, and putting patients at risk for such policies. These policies for Ohio businesses will cause a substantial negative impact and further divide our citizens.

Thank you again for your time today letting me provide testimony for the support of HB248.

Sincerely,

Brandon Tebbe