

Dear Chairman Lipps,

My name is Grace Johnson. I am an eighteen-year-old home health aid in Richland county, Ohio, and I am strongly urging you to pass HB248.

This bill is imperative to protecting our right to personal health decisions. One of the U.S. government's greatest responsibilities before God and the U.S. people is to protect the basic rights of its citizens. However, state governors are issuing unlawful executive orders requiring proof of vaccination in order to run or enter businesses. This is a massive overstepping of the government boundaries set up in the Constitution. It is not the government's job to make health decisions for its citizens, regardless of whether those actions are deemed beneficial. Thomas Jefferson said it well: "I know no safe depository of the ultimate powers of society but the people themselves; and if we think them not enlightened enough to exercise their control with a wholesome discretion, the remedy is not to take it from them, but to inform their discretion by education." He also declared, "I prefer dangerous freedom over peaceful slavery." This speaks for the American patriots today.

Furthermore, making vaccines mandatory will likely harm rather than protect U.S. citizens. This vaccine is still being tested, and we are the test subjects. Government leaders who understand this and yet support mandatory Covid vaccinations are willfully putting the American people in danger. The future side effects of this vaccine are largely unknown, as it was developed rapidly and is still largely untested. Each citizen should have the freedom to weigh the risks of the Covid vaccine for himself before being injected. The ability to make personal health decisions is a basic human right that absolutely must be preserved if we can still call ourselves a free nation.

Finally, forcing vaccinations is a slippery slope. It is ludicrous that the government's reach for power has been allowed to extend far enough to even consider forced vaccinations, and it is alarming to realize how easy it will be for that grasp to extend even farther in the future. Once the government has the power to enforce public health decisions, such as the vaccine mandates we are seeing now, it will have the power to push other areas of personal freedom into the public health category, such as forced sterilizations.

I speak on behalf of the next generation of Americans. We are patriots of America as she was intended to be--a nation under God, of the people, by the people, and for the people. That America is slipping away as our freedoms are swallowed up

in our ever-expanding government. Now we urge our representatives not to forget the grave responsibility that was invested in them by God and the U.S. people. According to Romans 13:4, the government's role is to punish evil, not to enforce health mandates. You have a duty to use your authority for the glory of God who gave it to you, as well as to protect our country, not from a virus, but from tyrants who want to strip away our freedoms. I write urging you to represent us and defend our basic right to personal health decisions by passing HB248.

Sincerely,
Grace Johnson