

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 Jessica Clark and I fully and whole heartedly support House Bill 248. I am writing with the upmost urgency that you also support this bill. It is imperative that this bill passes and protects the rights of Ohioans. The right for vaccine choice and anti-discrimination keeps Ohioans safe by letting us decide what is best for our bodies and our lives. No body of government should be allowed to make this decision for any human being. Denying certain vaccines over others does not make anyone anti-vaccine but instead empowers us to have the freedom to choose. Let every Ohioan have the right to make the best decision for themselves without repercussions. Health information needs to be protected and confidential for all Ohioans.

I am a mother of three young children, and I also work as an exercise physiologist in Cardiac and Pulmonary Rehab. The health of my children is of the upmost importance and having the freedom to choose that care needs be upheld by the state. The health of my children should be decided by myself and their pediatrician, not the state. For my heart and lung patients, their care should be dictated by their physicians and contraindications for any vaccine discussed. The state of Ohio cannot possibly make a standard health decision for every person, when every person's healthcare is unique.

Furthermore, my husband served three tours in Afghanistan with the 75<sup>th</sup> Ranger Regiment. As a special operations medic, he put his life on the line to protect the freedoms of "We The People". If you support medical mandates and invade the medical privacy of Ohioans it takes away our God given right to choose. Supporting this bill is crucial.

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

Sincerely,

Jessica Clark