

August 19, 2021

Dear Health Committee:

Chairman Lipps, Vice Chair Holmes, Ranking Member Russo, and Members of the House Health Committee. Thank you for the opportunity to provide my testimony for the support of House Bill 248.

My name is Jill Pabst;

I am registered nurse with expertise in obstetrics now for 14 years. I support House Bill 248 that Protect Ohioans from discrimination regarding their vaccine status. As a nurse, it is my responsibility to make sure patients have choices in the healthcare they receive and the meals they choose to eat.

For instance: Our Muslim women can choose to eat a “Halal diet” and refuse male providers; that even includes the dietary department that brings up her meals and the environmental services to remove the trash from her room. Our orthodox Jewish women can refuse a “non-kosher diet.”

Abortion, regardless your view as right or wrong, women can still make that choice, it is her body, her choice.

The Civil Rights Act of 1964 protects the United States citizens from discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex or national origin.

The first amendment to the constitution of the United States that is part of the Bill of Rights also protects our freedom of religion, speech, assembly, and the press.

I am in favor of HB 248 because;

HB248 Gives Ohioans’ a vaccine choice, provides for exemptions and stops employers from dictating what they feel is safety and wellbeing for their employees.

HB248 Protects Ohioans’ by providing the right to health care privacy regarding their vaccine status. “It is none of your business if I do or do not have the vaccine.”

Like the antidiscrimination protection provided in the Civil Rights Act of 1964, HB 248 Protects Ohioans from discrimination regarding their vaccine status and general vaccine mandate.

Freedom of choices is the foundation to what makes Ohio and this country a great place and why immigrants from all over the world want to come here. If we cave and do not pass HB 248 then this will have a deep social and economic burden to our state.

Let me explain:

As a nurse, I make a good economic living. I paid huge student loans that supported my local community college. If vaccines are mandatory, I promise you, am no longer going to be a nurse. I will not have the income to support my community financially to buy the goods and services that help support my community, be it bird seed for the feeders, grain and hay for my horses, donations to my church, the local mechanic that fixes my car, buy the girl scout cookies in the Spring, donate to the literacy campaign at the local Dollar General, no longer be able to afford going out to support my local restaurant and I will no longer be able to donate to my local political parties that set up their booths at the local county fair before an election. This trickle down loss of income will not only affect me, but it will also affect the employees that work in these businesses by not giving them a job to sell their products because I no longer have the income to purchase them.

So you see, this is not just about “a vaccine.” This is about our way of life here in our Ohio communities and the freedoms our great country offers.

Thank you once again for this opportunity to provide personal testimony regarding the dire need to support and pass House Bill 248.

Sincerely,

Jill Pabst RNC-EFM

