

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 Jody Montgomery and I work as an insurance agent. I work from home at my residence in Warren County Ohio and I support HB248 for the following reasons:

As the number of COVID19 cases continues to have an Ebb and Flow there has not been enough research to show whether or not the vaccinations will protect you from getting the virus. Daily the number of cases where someone who has been vaccinated and gets the virus continue to make the headlines (see recent Carnival Cruise headlines). Additionally, with the "Delta" variant on the rise will there be no end to this?

I believe that the answer to this problem is not forced vaccinations and making a person's private medical information ( supposedly protected by HIPPA ) a matter of public scrutiny. Each person should have the right to choose and the right to privacy. Education of the public in regards to the risks and possible benefits of the vaccinations and giving the individual the right to choose what is in their best interest is the answer.

In the past when I have received the Influenza vaccination I have developed the flu as a result and as such I no longer take the flu vaccination and have not had the flu in many years. I fear that being forced to take the vaccination will ultimately result in getting COVID19. It is possible that I currently have antibodies in my blood stream against the virus but would not have the choice to have a blood draw to see if this is the case instead of being forced to take the vaccination (as my body may already be naturally resilient against the virus) should this house bill 248 not be passed.

In conclusion I strongly urge you to pass this bill as it is "My Body, My Choice"!

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

Sincerely,

Jody B. Montgomery