

Good day Chairman Lipps', Vice-Chair Holmes, Ranking Member Russo, and Members of The House Health Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide proponent testimony of House Bill 248.

I am a 41 year old, mother of 2 elementary aged children, that has endured brain surgery, heart surgery, a stroke, a seizure and was diagnosed with a blood clotting disorder. I am also a small business owner. Last school year I removed our children from the public school system not in fear of COVID-19, but in fear of their mental health with all the mandates that was implemented. They thrived in a homeschool environment with a few children in the same age group. No masks, no mention of the vaccine, just good, old fashioned education and playing with their peers. This year, my husband and I opened our own brick and mortar salon, thinking that our children will be able to return to school and enjoy the experiences that we have had in our past years. With the threat of masks returning, and now the threat of an experimental vaccine to be pushed on everyone, especially young children that have such a low probability of contracting or spreading this virus. We have to once again rethink our life.

Our children, thank God, are very healthy and vivacious 6 and 7 year old children. Everything that we do is for them. I will not allow anyone, or any private or public entity ask me my or my children's medical status. This should, as it has in the past, be confidential. How can this segregation return in our state, or our country?

We were once "in this together", and now we are 2 different kinds of Ohioans "the Vaccinated" and the "Unvaccinated". What is happening???

I am a proponent of House Bill 248 and it needs to get passed and help all Ohioans.

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

Sincerely,

Karan Farhat  
Strongsville, Ohio