

Chairman Lipps, Vice Chair Holmes, Ranking Member Russo, and Members of the House Health Committee:

This shall serve as my written testimony as a proponent of House Bill 248. This Bill means a great deal to myself and my family. This Bill also means a great deal to all Ohioans – it is a vital component of their overall rights to medical freedom.

I have four children, two of which suffered severe reactions to their childhood vaccines, specifically my daughter's seizure disorder caused by the MMR vaccine and the DTAP vaccine caused a Strabismus in my son. Both of their "medical journeys" post their 4-5 year old routine vaccinations were anything but routine. Each were treated by Drs. of several departments at Cincinnati Children's Hospital. Each were met with a battery of testing, procedures, terrifying suggested diagnosis and even surgery. In both cases all the answers that Doctors assured us they would find turned out to be wrong. When I began to do my own research, talk to other doctors, and most importantly families that had experienced the same reactions and even finding the information plain as could be in the Vaccine Inserts I was confident I had found the cause. When I brought my research to my children's physicians I was dismissed and shamed. My children, will never receive another vaccine for not only the fear of what it could do to their bodies but also the lack of knowledge and treatment they would receive in response to whatever reaction might come next. This Bill would ensure them their right to education, to medical treatment, to a "normal life" regardless of their vaccine status.

I also support this bill to protect my husband. He proudly served in the United States Airforce and trained to be a Firefighter. He fulfilled his dream of getting a position with the Cincinnati Fire Department. He has since gone on to become a Paramedic and has so far served Cincinnati for 15 years. As you may know as a firefighter he is exposed to an enormous amount of danger. There is the obvious dangers of fighting fires, going into accident and crime scenes, dealing with people erratic and high on drugs, the situational threats to his well-being are endless. A danger we have learned may be even greater is the chemical overload to his body. He can't control what he breathes in and comes in physical contact with while working to put out a fire in a home or business, the fumes and liquids pouring from a vehicle at an accident scene or even what he may come in contact with when treating a drug user. He has begun to feel the effects of these exposures and his working hard to heal his body and control what he is exposed when not on duty. This would include choosing not to take the Covid 19 vaccine. If this Bill does not pass and his employer is able to mandate the vaccine it will take him out of his job and likely take our family to a state where he can work without it. I do not say that lightly as such a loss of job, income, insurance would be devastating to our family of 6. Being that he risks his life all the time for his fellow citizens he should at least be given the right to choose what he puts into his body. 5

Please support House Bill 248 – please support people like my 6 year old daughter and my 5 year old son. Please support my husband and honor the work he has done in our communities. Please support this Bill in support of all those that placed their trust in you and voted you into the position you hold.

Thank you for your time and attention to this very important matter.

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