

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 (Vaccine Choice & Anti-Discrimination Bill.)

Respectfully, it is not the government's job to protect my health. It's the government's job to protect our individual rights to make personal healthcare decisions.

My name is Laurel Hogue. I have recently retired from nursing after 36 years. I am NOT an "anti-vaxxer". I have always respected a person's right to decide on whether they accept or decline any medical treatment. That is what I was taught, and what was expected, with each and every nursing job throughout my career. The health care code of ethics was "first, do no harm". "Always ensure that the benefits outweigh harms, and if there is uncertainty use your judgement and involve the patient in decision making".

Americans should have a choice on what gets injected to their bodies because once you have injected it, you can't uninject it. How can it be legal to force citizens to inject drugs into their bodies against their will? The manufacturers have no liability if someone has an adverse drug event or even dies. How can anyone ethically force a "vaccine" for something with a 99.8% survival rate?

Vaccinated people can still spread the virus, shed the virus, become sick or even die from Covid19. On August 18, 2021, the CDC acknowledged that the "vaccines" lose their effectiveness and now require a booster 8 months after receiving the second dose. If the vaccine doesn't prevent catching the virus, doesn't prevent spreading it, what's a booster going to boost? If the vaccine worked, and was safe, you would not need to mandate, force, deceive or threaten those who prefer to wait until clinical trials have been completed (estimated study completion date of January 31, 2023).

Pregnant women are being harassed and mandated to accept this vaccine or be fired. The following statement came from the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, "Refusal of Medically Recommended Treatment During Pregnancy" Number 664/ June 2016.

"The use of coercion is not only ethically impermissible but also medically inadvisable because of the realities of prognostic uncertainty and the limitations of medical knowledge. As such, it is never acceptable to attempt to influence patients toward a clinical decision using coercion. (Physicians) are discouraged in the strongest possible terms from the use of duress, manipulation, coercion, physical force, or threats, including threats to motivate patients toward a specific clinical decision."

Please Vote Yes on HB 248. This may be the most important vote of our lifetimes.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurel Hogue