

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. I'm glad to hear that you are accepting written testimony on this issue and I hope that decisive action will be taken soon on this issue.

My name is Mark W. Marasch and I am a program manager in the Aerospace/Defense sector with a Master's degree in Engineering. I am also a husband and a father to two young adults. The reasons I support House Bill 248 are:

- **For Liberty.** Whether an individual is coerced into taking an injection by a government or an employer's mandate, they are having their very most basic rights taken from them. If an individual's bodily autonomy is taken away, discussions about other fundamental rights including speech and bearing arms become superfluous because an even more basic human right has already been stolen. One might argue for the rights of business owners to require whatever they please in their business places, but this argument is reversed from reality. Most business owners simply wish to get back to business without making mandates on their employees, but many are making mandates because they now fear for their businesses and want to appease government, stay open in tough times, and minimize their exposure to lawsuits. What employers *really need* is some top-cover so that can stay out of their employees' personal business and avoid second-guessing hidden/implied mandates that threaten their livelihood.
- **For my children.** The COVID-19 virus has severe effects on children and young adults in only the rarest of situations. The so-called "vaccines" are only authorized for emergency use and our children are not in any sort of emergency whatsoever. Noting the spike seen in VAERS data on vaccine-related deaths plus the concerns expressed by Dr. Michael Yeadon (former Pfizer Research VP) and a number of other experts, there are valid concerns that these vaccines are harmful in the short and long-term. We will only know what effects (positive and negative) these injections will have after a number of years have passed. Why are we asking our children and young adults to risk complications that may affect their health for the next 60-80 years without any benefit to themselves? It's a primary tenet of civilization that the most important population to protect is our children. They are our future. Why would we actually **increase their risks**, other than for Big Pharma's profits and to further the Great Reset agenda?
- **For morality's sake!** The following are blatantly immoral and must be corrected immediately:
 - Exercising totalitarian powers to control people's behavior as has been done over the last eighteen months.
 - Discriminating against people based on "vaccine" status. If a treatment is "safe and effective" then the voluntary recipients shouldn't be concerned about the behavior of others.
 - Interfering with informed consent and bribing the entire population to participate in a large, dangerous, experimental study. Dangling Ohioans' lost liberty as a carrot to enforce

participation is an authoritarian move that should not and will not be tolerated by a free people.

- Forcing compliance, even though personal health is an individual responsibility. Such decisions should be left up to the individual's choice. Those decisions aren't anybody else's to make, nor are they anybody else's business.

I urge the swift passage of House Bill 248. The citizens of Ohio are watching your actions on this matter and this **will be a hot-button issue** when primary season returns!

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

Sincerely,

Mark W. Marasch
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