

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 Martha Schneider, and I am a homeschooling mom in the Greater Cincinnati area. The reason I support House Bill 248 is primarily because of our country's history of standing up for individual freedoms. I see first hand how our liberties are eroding away in the name of "safety". Homeschooling has given me the privilege to rediscover what makes our country the most free and greatest country through the eyes of my children as we study the American Revolution. By homeschooling, we dive into the men who created our system of government, their writings when creating the constitution and what their original intent was behind their decisions. Government was created by the people in order to **protect** our natural rights, many of which are endowed upon us by our Creator. Vaccine mandates are another attempt to take away our rights of self-determination. I am asking you to pass House Bill 248 to stop the vaccine mandates, say no to vaccine passports and not allow for vaccine discrimination by Ohio companies, schools, and hospitals.

I have a 19 year old daughter who is currently studying to receive her BSN in Nursing and she has recently been told that she must take the **experimental** covid vaccine in order to start her clinical studies at the local hospitals who are **mandating** covid vaccinations by October 1, 2021. The school claims that they cannot guarantee her a clinical site if she does not comply. Americans have a long history of correcting missteps of taking freedoms away. We are not a perfect union but strive to make ourselves a more perfect union. Americans know what is right and what is wrong and we will be able to make the right choice when given ALL the evidence. Taking away our liberty to decide what is right and wrong for our own bodies leads us to assume that the government, schools and employers think we are too simpleminded to make an informed decision for ourselves and those around us. People should have the right to weigh all

the risks and benefits of taking a vaccine with their doctor privately. Vaccines should be an individual choice, not a mandate by others.

There is growing evidence that the current vaccines are largely ineffective at stopping the spread of the coronavirus and its variants. Hence, there is now a booster shot arriving this fall, which unfortunately are already being mandated or required in other parts of the world. This assault on personal liberty should not be allowed here in Ohio. According to the Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis' recent study published, in the journal Nature, on May 24, 2021, shows that even a mild case of natural immunity is much more effective against covid and its variants.<sup>1</sup>

Also, as you may be aware, her age group, if she gets covid, has a 99.8% chance of surviving. According to data found on a website from The Heritage Foundation who cited their source as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, found that **ONLY .2%** of covid deaths were younger than 25<sup>2</sup>. This publication was updated February 17, 2021. She has a higher chance of dying in a car accident than dying of covid. So since driving a car is more risky, should I no longer allow her to drive in the name of safety? Of course not! She enjoys her freedom to drive to school, work, and other activities. Even though she is aware of the risks associated with the privilege of driving, the benefit of driving herself to activities outweighs the risks. Likewise, if she gets the vaccine, the long term risks or adverse effects are unknown. She would be risking her life on a bet that seems as if it is backed only by the research funded by organizations that profit from her getting the vaccine. We have no information of the long term effects from these experimental vaccines. Because of these possible mandates she would be a human experiment and would have the rest of her life to live with this forced experimental vaccine repercussions

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<sup>1</sup> Immunity to the Coronavirus May Persist for Years, Scientists Find, The New York Times, May 26, 2021.

<sup>2</sup> <https://datavisualizations.heritage.org/public-health/covid-19-deaths-by-age/>.

(ie. blood clots, fertility problems, spiked T-cells growing uncontrollably causing other issues within her body.)<sup>3,4</sup>

Our Creator was good enough to create such an amazing immune system within us already. We do not need to take this vaccine to survive. People need to understand that there is a whole other side of this story that is being drowned out by those with power. Since coronavirus first entered our lives, we have learned so much more about it and how it affects people and who it harms the most. Deaths from the coronavirus have dropped significantly.<sup>5</sup> Experts found several therapies that are effective against it and because of this, we should no longer need this experimental vaccine. Additionally, there are studies such as ScienceNews published on November 21, 2020, that show there are supplements that can help protect our bodies from covid such as Vitamin D, Vitamin C, and Zinc if we find that we are deficient in any of these.<sup>6</sup> I had to personally search out this information because I haven't heard a peep about it from local or national news.

We do **not** consider ourselves to be against vaccinations but we are **PRO** freedom. We just want to make a well informed decision as to what goes into our bodies and why we need it before we take vaccines. We should not be bullied by hospitals or private enterprises. Americans should never be forced to take vaccines under the duress of losing a job which provides for their family's daily needs. This overreach needs to stop. Everytime we give up rights in the name of safety we are giving up our rights of self-government and more of our cherished freedoms. These freedoms which were given to us by our Creator and then fortified

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<sup>3</sup> Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System. <https://vaers.hhs.gov>

<sup>4</sup> National Vaccine INformation Center. Search the US Government's VAERS Data. <https://www.medalerts.org/>.

<sup>5</sup> Ohio coronavirus cases and deaths. <https://usafacts.org/visualizations/coronavirus-covid-19-spread-map/state/ohio>. Updated August 17, 2021.

<sup>6</sup> <https://www.sciencenews.org/article/coronavirus-covid-19-supplements-vitamins-what-we-know>

by our Constitution and Bill of Rights. Our government was created by a group of free thinkers. Our Constitution framework was mind blowing in its time when monarchies and suppression of their people were all too common. Let's get back to our founding fathers' idea of limiting government, employers, schools tyrannical hand over our liberties and continuing their legacy of self-governance. Let's not let the torch of liberty dim on our watch for future generations of Ohioans. We are a household of 5 registered voters and another one coming through the ranks. We will be watching this bill closely and see how you, our representatives, vote on this. Your decision could allow that beacon of liberty to continue to glow brightly for all future generations and continue our country's legacy for freedom.

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

God bless you and America,

Martha Schneider