

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 Melissa Depinet and I have been a teacher for 15 years and the reason I support HB 248 is because I'm sure you have heard many hospitals, healthcare systems, and many other companies throughout the state have now announced mandatory COVID-19 vaccines for all staff. As a person that lives in Ohio, the United State of America, the land of the free, I am writing to implore you to please bring HB 248 to a vote. We must pass this bill, with an emergency clause to enact it immediately, or a large portion of our healthcare and other workforce will be facing unemployment.

Businesses all over Ohio are making it mandatory for their employees to take a vaccine. If they don't comply they will be fired. It does not matter what you believe in taking the vaccine or not taking the vaccine. What you need to look at is mandating someone to do something against their will. Then if they don't comply, take away their job. No person, business or establishment should take away anyone's right of choice then punish them if they do not comply.

We live in the United States, a free country and forcing someone to have a mandatory vaccine for work is taking away someone's rights. Is this right or wrong? It's WRONG!

To force healthcare workers is ridiculous. They are highly educated people that have been working above and beyond for two years now. The healthcare workers have seen and worked with patience for years now so they know what they are facing. Let that be their choice not the employers.

Your place of work cannot force anyone to do anything they don't want to do. The person has the right to deny treatment. This is the same thing. Right or Wrong but the employees are being punished if they don't choose to get the vaccine. Then they are being punished with the loss of their job.

Do we really need less healthcare workers in hospitals?

Do we really need more unemployment?

Do we really need to be forcing people to comply will help?

Do we really need to give people against their will a shot that is not FDA approved. It is an experimental shot used under a state of emergency. We are not under any state emergencies.

Why are places doing this to their workers? So the companies can get a kick back from the government in MONEY. MONEY, GREED, and POWER!!!

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

Sincerely,

Melissa Depinet

