

August 15, 2021

Dear 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 am the single adoptive mom of two boys (brothers) ages 14 and 16. They came into my life when they were 6 and 8. Their biological family has not been available or honest about their medical history, so I am flying blind when it comes to that. However, my family has already had COVID 19. I'm writing to you today to ask you to support HB 248 so that we do not get forced to get the vaccine for something we've already conquered. As you know, more and more research has been done on patients who've survived and we seem to have the best antibodies and T Cells stored to protect us and those around us. There is no need for us to get vaccinated. As I mentioned before, I don't have my son's health history. The idea of vaccinating them and possibly irritating an underlying heart condition, or worse, scares me tremendously! They've fought so hard to break their biological family's chain of addiction and have such a bright future ahead. I don't see any reason to put them at risk of cardiac problems with a vaccination that their bodies don't have a need for, in order for them to attend school, or have a job.

Then there's me, with my strange health history. I am actually a survivor of the West Nile Virus, which is probably why I've already had COVID, strange health issues seem to find me quickly. I'm scared to get vaccinated because I have bad hearts on both sides of my family. I've been on aspirin since graduating college. I'm afraid if I get the vaccine and have cardi problems, my boys will be left alone, again! I can't do that to them, not when I know this is a real possibility.

Please vote to pass HB 248 so that I have the freedom to protect my family from a vaccine that has real consequences for us, especially since we don't need it. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Most sincerely,
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