

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 Shawn Hogsten and I am a steel worker at Cleveland cliffs. The largest flat rolled steel producer in North America. I'm also an elected union official of our local lodge here in southwest Ohio. The reason I support House Bill 248 is because it gives the people of this state and country the right to choose. Our governor has allowed the corporations in this state to make health decisions for their employees and future employees by issuing vaccine mandates. Our company has issued vaccine mandates for all new hires if you do not have a vaccine or will not get the vaccine you will not be hired at one of the largest employers in Butler County. Personal, religious, or health related concerns are not being taken into consideration if you're a new hire wanting to join the Cleveland cliffs team. We are currently a workforce that is highly divided just like the entire state. Our company has issued hard hat stickers to those that are vaccinated and those that aren't remain wearing masks like they are being punished for not taking the vaccine. This has caused a complete segregation of the workforce of more than 1800 hourly unionized employees here in Butler County. On behalf of the majority of our steel mill a highly Valuable asset to the community, and state, it is our hopes that you will pass House Bill 248 and allow the people of this great state and nation to decide for themselves if they get the vaccine or not.

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

Sincerely,

Shawn Hogsten