

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 Shona Morton and I am a medical laboratory scientist and the reason I support House Bill 248 is because:

I have worked for Kettering Health Network in Kettering Ohio for 17 years as a medical laboratory Scientist. As you know they just recently made it mandatory to get the Covid vaccination or I will be terminated. I am opposed to getting it for many reasons, the most important one being my body, my decision. I am a single, 53-year-old woman who lives on her own and I am the only source of income. I have worked hard to get to where I am in life and I am proud of my personal accomplishments and for what I do for my community. I have not done anything harmful or vicious to any one at my place of employment or in my community. As an American, who has served in the United States Army I have stood beside many great soldiers who have put their lives on the line for our freedom, the very freedom I am being denied.

I feel deeply about not being vaccinated with this particular vaccine because there is simply not enough unadulterated scientific based information available for me to justify putting an unknown substance in my body that I know nothing about except for what I have heard from the media or read about on the internet. In my field of work we have a critical shortage of certified laboratory scientists across the board and by losing someone with my experience in our network will cause unnecessary patient harm. Due to the lack of certified technicians to do the complex laboratory testing and report results to the doctors in a timely manner so they can make accurate diagnosis and decisions about the patient's medical treatment and ultimate outcome

For those of us who have served in the "trenches" during the last 18 months, like many health care workers, I've worked tirelessly and gave 110 percent to my employer. I value human life and I feel it is my calling to help those who are afflicted with diseases to get their answers so they can heal and enjoy what life they have left in our extraordinary country. Thank you so much for reading this and I hope that on August 20th the right decision will be made and those who have given their all will not be discarded as expendables or berated and labeled as outcasts of society due to our deeply held personal and passionate beliefs.

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

Respectively,

Shona Morton

Miamisburg, Ohio