

8/11/21

Dear Chairman Lipps, Vice Chair Holmes, Ranking Member Russo, & Members of the House Health Committee:

My name is Susan Sedenik and I am a mom of two children and I work as an office manager here in northeast Ohio. I strongly support HB 248 which allows vaccine choice and aims to protect those who want to remain in charge of their *own* health and vaccine choices. I am very troubled to know that there are folks who want to dictate what *they* want for **my** family. As we know, each person has unique needs, sensitivities, allergies, and even frailties. To expect everyone to get the same vaccine ignores the unique health issues of each person - it is reckless and dangerous. I have several friends and acquaintances who have had loved ones **die** of the COVID vaccine. A man in his 40's had the vaccine and three days later died in his sleep! I understand that may not be common, but it can (and does) happen. I am not willing to take that chance especially to avoid a virus where MOST people are coming out on the other side just fine.

As an American, I expect that I can maintain my individual liberty and freedom to take care of myself and my family how I deem is best. A universal mandate for a vaccine has never been enacted in this country and it should not start now here at the state level.

The vaccine and mask situation has been highly politicized and oftentimes we get misleading and false information via the media and health professionals. How can one trust that the government knows what is best when we have scare tactics and shaming from the some of our most famous politicians? Our former President just had a birthday party with hundreds of unmasked people indoors.....yet he and his party push others to accept behavior they themselves do not adhere to. It is also hard to trust a vaccine that has not been around even just a few years! I will not be a guinea pig to be tested on.

Mandating that folks have this vaccine will NOT ensure citizens will actually comply, which will lead to discrimination. That discrimination will ultimately lead to worsening relationships with neighbors, those in our workplace, and even relationships between doctors and patients. People will not be able to shop, dine out, etc...and businesses and travel will suffer.

People need and deserve to make our OWN choices regarding our health. For those that have the vaccine, they should rest knowing that they are protected. It is not their job to force their opinions and beliefs on others. This is America and we have the Bill of Rights and our Constitution, we need to defend that.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide proponent testimony on House Bill 248.

Kindly,
Susan Sedenik