

August 19, 2021

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 Tiffany Conrad and I am currently an HRIS Analyst at a local hospital in Northeast Ohio. I support House Bill 248 because it shows the fight of those who still believe in freedom of choice when it comes to being able to make medical decisions for ourselves. These mandates/requirements are discriminatory, illegal, harmful and affecting people's livelihood. We in healthcare who worked through the pandemic at its highest peak were considered hero's this time last year and now those of us who still work in healthcare who choose to not receive this vaccine are now all of a sudden nothing. Instead... the unvaccinated are being told we don't deserve to live and that if we are sick, for whatever reason, we should stick it out at home or die. Though I work in HR, during the pandemic we were told if it gets bad enough, that we would be pulled on the floors to assist however we can. Not one second did I think that I would not jump in to help. This bill is fighting for our freedom. We as Americans will also fight for our freedom!!

I hope while this bill is discussed, you will also think of the consequences that this will have on the healthcare businesses who are already short staffed. God forbid if there is a surge after this mandate has taken affect. Our healthcare systems will be more overwhelmed than ever before. That is not a risk that should be taken lightly. While our economy is fighting to come back, it will be restricted by mandates which will be the fall of many businesses closing. These risks to our communities, cities and the great state of Ohio, outweigh the risks of not mandating vaccines.

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

Sincerely,

Tiffany Conrad