

I am writing in support of a bill that states we should have exemptions to any vaccine or medication mandate coming from employers or schools.

I do however not agree with the language that excludes employees of children's hospitals and intensive care settings. These employees, including myself DO have the same right to take exemptions as anyone else under The Civil Rights Act of 1964. I cannot understand how excluding them can be supported. I think this language needs to be removed and this bill needs to protect ALL of Ohio's employees.

I have worked at Cleveland Clinic Children's Hospital for 16 years. I am a pediatric occupational therapist and see children in an outpatient setting. The children I see are medically stable and well. I do not understand how the conclusion was made to include children's hospitals considering children are EXTREMELY low risk of complications or death. And if this is included, why aren't all of school employees included?

I am happy to read that natural immunity if being offered as a valid exemption, however I think the language in this section needs some major updating to reflect how natural immunity can be claimed. To ask that it is proved by antibody test and comparing it to that of a vaccinated person is not realistic nor how immunity works over time. A person who was naturally infected and has immunity may produce a positive antibody test for some time, it is not reasonable to expect this will last indefinitely. However research supports the role of SARS-Co V-2 specific T cells (our long lasting immunity) following natural immunity. I think this bill needs to be changed to include proof by positive test or documented case only.

Thank you for your time,

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