I am writing in support of HB 193. No one should be forced to obtain a flu shot to be allowed to work.

Imagine. You park your car and walk to your office daily. One day you receive a memo that from now on you must strip naked and give all your clothes to the homeless each morning during the winter months. . Your employer has provided you with a generous employee discount for new clothing at the new clothing store in the lobby. Your employer may even consider some form of compensation for your clothing....on a case by case basis.

You are told that numerous studies clearly show we can decrease death rates among the most vulnerable homeless population with this one small act! All studies were funded by the clothing industry.

**But I like my own clothes. I support the homeless and other charities in my own way.** All your research is without merit. The clothing industry is the only industry to really understands clothing.

But I am a little uncomfortable walking so far naked. It's a personal philosophical or religious for me. No allowances for this. We have decided this is for the greater good.

But we have some older employees, immunocompromised, or pregnant workers. Being naked themselves even for a short time daily, has its own dangers. Well then, they can just find alternative employment if they feel this way.

<u>I have looked into this and it seems like there may be better alternatives to helping the homeless stay</u> <u>warm.</u> Again, we will only consider our studies.

**The homeless have clothes on.** But they need yours.

What would you do? If you are like the thousands of hard working medical staff that are head of household, raising children, paying a mortgage, or owe student loans, you would understand it is wrong, you would feel horribly violated, but you would take off your clothes.

I am 59 years old. I work with the sickest of patients in an acute care hospital. I try my best to exercise, eat well, get enough sleep and use the personal protective gear my hospital supplies for me. I have won awards in the past for perfect attendance (\$6,000.00 cash on year—yeah!) I did not miss one single day of work last year. I also did not get the flu shot. I trust my body and my ability to stay healthy. For me the flu shot is worse than being made to walk naked. It's putting something under my skin that has known risks, little protection. My hospital or the drug manufacturer will not promise to compensate me if I am injured.

If you look close at the AMA (American Medical Association, the ONA (Ohio Nurses Association, and even OSHA (Occupational Safety and Health Administration), these organizations make a polite comment about the importance of flu vaccines, BUT are quick to oppose <u>mandatory</u> flu shots. See attached.

I have attached the Cochrane review and Medscape articles that clearly indicate the flu shot is neither safe nor effective. Pharmaceutical companies understand that if they can mandate this in a medical setting, next is schools, business, and restaurants, etc. There is no end to the money they can make--- and all without any liability thanks to the 1986 Supreme Court ruling. The Attorney general want to

prosecute the pharmaceutical companies for the heroin epidemic, but where is our responsibility lie? Pharmaceutical companies are just businesses out to make a dollar. It is our fault if we allow it!

No one should be forced to inject submit to a mandatory flu shot to be allowed to work. I am in support of this bill.