

TESTIMONY BEFORE THE OHIO HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, COMMERCE, AND LABOR

Re. House Bill 193

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Chairman Young and members of the Committee: Thank you for the opportunity to address you today about Ohio House Bill 193, which would protect Ohio workers from being fired for refusing yearly flu shots.

I live near Dayton, Ohio in Representative Jim Butler's district, and am a registered pharmacist with a Ph.D. in biopharmaceutics, specializing in pharmacology, toxicology, and drug kinetics. For the past 26 years I have learned that pharmacists and other medical professionals learn very little about vaccines in their education.

If flu shots worked well and were safe for all recipients, HB 193 would not be necessary. Unfortunately, this is not the case. Please consider the following:

- Flu shots have a history of poor effectiveness. According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the 2014-15 flu shot was only 19% effective.
- No adequate controlled studies exist proving that flu shots prevent the spread of flu.
- The flu shot is the most compensated vaccine in the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program.
- Government vaccine policymakers are prone to conflicts of interest with drug companies.
- Physician groups oppose mandatory flu shots lacking opt-out provisions, e.g., American Medical Association and Association of American Physicians and Surgeons.

Discriminating against employees for refusing a potentially dangerous medical procedure with poor effectiveness violates informed consent, a basic tenet of ethical medical practice.

Below is a brochure I authored on the poor efficacy of flu shots. Thank you for your studying this bill and hopefully signing on as a co-sponsor.