

Ohio Advocates for Medical Freedom

Proponent Testimony for HB193

September 12, 2017

Dear Honorable Chairman Young, Vice Chair DeVitis, Ranking Member Lepore-Hagan and Members of the Economic Development, Commerce and Labor Committee,

Unlike other states, Ohio law is silent in protecting the medical rights of all Ohio workers. Employees, even those who have no hospital patient contact whatsoever, including contracted non-employees, are being fired for simply declining an annual flu shot.

HB193 is needed to protect the billing clerk who worked an office job for 19 years and was given no alternative to her employer's "Get the shot or you're fired" policy.

HB193 is needed to protect the cardiac rehab exercise physiologist who was fired, even though she submitted a medical exemption from her own personal physician, who confirmed she should not receive the flu shot due to her medical condition.

HB193 is needed to protect the minority employee who was a vegan and had a religious belief against injecting animal proteins into her body, but she was given no alternative to the flu shot and was fired.

HB193 is needed to stop penalizing employees for simply wanting to make their own medical decisions, according to their own medical history, lifestyle and religious beliefs.

These are **real people** whose lives and whose family's lives are being impacted both financially and emotionally every year in Ohio.

They need your help.

Vote YES on HB193, and let's put an end to these unjust labor practices in Ohio.

Thank you for your time and attention to this critical legislation.

Sincerely,
Tina M. Wise, BS, RPh
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