Chairman Lipps, Vice Chair Holmes, Ranking Member Russo, and Members of the House Health Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide proponent testimony for House Bill 248.

My name is Scott Landy and I am a marketing executive for a dental office in Youngstown. I have read through the proposed legislation and strongly support House Bill 248 because, as an individual, I feel it is necessary to have the freedom to make informed health decisions for myself and family as I deem them necessary. Compulsory vaccinations for work, public/private businesses, travel, etc. should not be mandated in the state of Ohio-- or anywhere else for that matter. Guidelines being set forth by international bodies such as the World Health Organization or the United Nations should not influence the autonomy of our governing bodies here in the United States and Ohio. Additionally, showing proof of vaccination via a passport or other documentation/electronic verification is a blatant intrusion on privacy and any favorable or preferential treatment of, or reward for vaccinated individuals, is discriminatory. We should look no further than the FDA's reluctance to approve any of the newly available vaccines and their experimental status, and the liability protection that has been awarded to the drug companies as further evidence that we cannot currently consider them truly safe. House Bill 248 as introduced appears to adequately protect Ohioans against discrimination and protects individuals' rights of choice and this is why I support its passage into law.

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

Sincerely, Scott Landy