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

My name is Laura Molnar, and I am in support of House Bill 248. Please allow me to explain my position.

I started to type out my entire story about my vaccine injury, but I kept deleting and rewriting, deleting and rewriting. You see, I developed an autoimmune condition as a result of a vaccine, however I don't often tell my story because it has become "popular" to discredit those who have experienced adverse reactions to vaccines.

Vaccines are often touted as "safe and effective." That is the common mantra we hear in the news, from doctors, from trusted sources. And maybe, for many, they are safe and effective. However, there are also so many of us who have experienced adverse reactions. It is hard to know exactly how many of us, for sure, because many times these symptoms are not understood to be due to the vaccine until many months (or even years) later. Maybe the symptoms were extremely mild and then intensified over time. Maybe the symptoms were not something generally known to be related to a vaccine and were dismissed for a long period of time. By that time, a doctor is not always willing to report this reaction to VAERS, and therefore it does not get logged as an official reaction to a vaccine.

My vaccine-induced autoimmune disease at times caused my life to flip upside down. There was a period of time, before I found my wonderful doctor and was properly treated, in which I was suicidal. The thought of being forced to endure another vaccine and risk getting sick again, or perhaps even sicker, is debilitating.

Further, thought that I might be ostracized from society for NOT getting this current vaccine keeps me awake at night. I worry about my children, who have the same genetic potential for reacting to vaccines as I did, and what this might to do their lives if they are forced to be injected. And what if, as a family, we can no longer fly on a plane because of this? Or go to the grocery store? These are the things that worry me more than anything.

Even as I type this, I ask myself, how has the United States come to this? How is it that I am writing to my legislators to BEG for the freedom to NOT have to take a vaccine to live in society? But here we are.

Please. Please, I am literally begging you to support House Bill 248.

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

Sincerely, Laura Molnar