HB 248: To Prohibit Required Vaccination Status Opponent Testimony: Jona Hilario PhD Ohio House Health Committee June 15, 2021

Chairman Lipps, Vice-Chair Holmes, Ranking Member Russo and Members of the House Health Committee,

I appreciate the opportunity to provide opponent testimony on House Bill 248. I am asking this committee to please prioritize the health and safety of Ohioans over blatant misinformation. This bill will endanger the lives of many and roll back progress made in public health that has enabled our society to live longer and healthier lives due the efficacy of vaccines in fighting vaccine-preventable diseases. It is utter foolishness to even consider this especially after going through a global pandemic.

I am a mother of two school-aged kids, a trained scientist and a community organizer. I am asking this committee to listen to scientists over charlatans. Please do not take the protection that vaccines have given all of us and our children for granted. Please reject HB 248 to keep Ohioans safe.